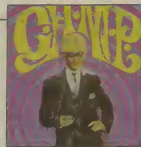


New scenario for FMA vote in Senate
HRC's Jacques describes process that
could leave both parties spinning results.
page 17

Magnet celebrates 1st year
Castro gay men's health center
exceeds staff's expectations.
page 14



Paperback writer
The gay pulp novels
of Victor J. Banis.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 34 • No. 28 • 8 July 2004

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

It's Kerry-Edwards for Democrats

by Cynthia Laird and Bob Roehr

The Democratic presidential ticket is set. Early Tuesday, July 6, candidate John Kerry ended months of speculation and announced the selection of North Carolina Senator John Edwards as his vice presidential running mate.

"John Edwards speaks the heart of America—hope and optimism," said Kerry in announcing his selection.

Kerry, 60, the junior senator from Massachusetts, made the announcement in an e-mail to supporters sent moments before he spoke at a rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Edwards was not with Kerry when the announcement was made, but was expected to join Kerry late Tuesday. News of Edwards's selection was leaked to media outlets at around 5 a.m. Pacific time.

Locally, San Francisco LGBT political leaders generally hailed the decision. Edwards, 51, was Kerry's final rival in the Democratic presidential primaries earlier this year. Edwards, a highly successful trial lawyer, has served one term in the Senate as his only elective office. He chose not to run for re-election but rather focused on running for the Democratic presidential nomination. He surprised many and surpassed several more established candidates to effectively come in second to Kerry in the primaries. Many observers view Edwards as an energetic campaigner who has a compelling personal story. His own presidential campaign bid was based on themes of optimism, having been the son of a mill worker and the first in his family to go to college, and he refused to go negative on his fellow Democratic opponents.



Sen. John Kerry

"I'm ecstatic," said city resident Matthew Rothschild, who was chosen as an Edwards delegate to the Boston convention after the March primary election. "I think it's exactly what the ticket needs."

Rothschild, a deputy city attorney, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that while he was selected to go to the convention as an Edwards delegate (based on

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D.A. at the six-month mark

by Zak Szymanski



Today marks six months in office for District Attorney Kamala Harris.

Rick Gerhanter

Six months after taking office, San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris says big changes have been implemented, progress can be measured, and her commitments to LGBT equality in her department and in the courtroom remain as strong as ever.

Harris, joined by office manager Martha Knutzen and public information officer Debbie Mesloh, met with the *Bay Area Reporter* June 24 to discuss Harris's early tenure, her relationship with the city's police force, her revamping of the DA's office, and issues of interest to the gay community at large.

"I definitely want to send out a message of thanks to the LGBT community. The community was a big part of my success in the election, and we've created a real coalition. I'm proud of that," said Harris, reflecting on her victory as well as her first six months in office.

The DA's office recently lost openly gay prosecutor Jim Hammer, best known for his securing convictions against Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel in the infamous dog mauling trial of 2002. Hammer resigned earlier this year, and without elaborating, noted that his relationship with Harris was not as workable as it was with former District Attorney Terence Hallinan, whom Hammer supported during the last election. But Hammer was not by any means the only openly LGBT assistant district attorney on

page 18 ►

Explore study disappoints, say HIV researchers

by Matthew S. Bajko

The Explore study, the largest study of its kind involving gay men, failed to show that intensive counseling with HIV testing could stop the spread of the virus, researchers disclosed this month.

Published in the July 3 issue of the *Lancet*, researchers reported that the behavioral intervention trial for HIV prevention among men who have sex with men found no statistically significant drop in HIV infections between the study group and the group of men receiving traditional HIV testing and counseling.

The researchers said the difference of 29 fewer infections between the intervention group, where 115 men tested positive, and the control group, where 144 men tested positive, "was not at the level of benefit targeted by the research team."

"I would say we did not hit a home run here," said Grant Colfax, one of the study's principal investigators and an AIDS researcher with the San Francisco Department of Public Health. "It is clear, given the results, Explore as it stands now would not be implemented among a high-risk group of MSM. It is clear that we need to find either better behavioral interventions or other ways to prevent HIV to really prevent the epidemic."

"It reminds us that changing behavior is very challenging," added Dr. Kenneth Mayer, head of Brown University's AIDS program and a co-chair of the Explore study.

As with the VaxGen vaccine study results last year, which failed to show any effectiveness in preventing HIV in gay men, the Explore study results are another disappointment



Explore study researcher Grant Colfax

Courtesy SF Dept. of Public Health

ment to the gay community, said Steven Tierney, director of HIV prevention for the city's health department, who was not involved with the study.

"I think it is a little bit more bad news from the research side," said Tierney, though he added, "With each research study hopefully we are getting a little bit closer to some successful outcomes."

The study results are "illuminating," said William Bland, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's director of community programs, in that it confirms that one-on-one counseling needs to be joined with community-wide approaches. It is a tactic, Bland points out, many agencies have adopted.

"It is difficult for counseling in and of itself to be the sole intervention to make a change in someone's behavior. It is on par with what we have seen, there are very few agencies that only do counseling at this day and age," said Bland. "There is a need working at a community level to change community norms and get the community mobilized. It is difficult to change an epidemic one person at a time."

One 'significant' finding

While the overall results of the Explore study failed to meet expectations, the

page 19 ►

AIDS confab opens Sunday

by John Iversen

The XV International AIDS Conference will open Sunday, July 11 in Bangkok, Thailand amid numerous controversies in Asia and elsewhere.

In what is shaping up to be the largest such conference ever, more than 15,000 delegates from 160 countries are expected to attend. The White House is going on a public relations blitz, comparing its own documentary film to be shown at the conference to Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11*.

The conference theme is "Access for All." Six years ago the theme was "Bridge the Gap" and 18 million have died from lack of treatment during that time. Behind the slogans, the grim reality is that only 400,000 of 6 million people are receiving anti-retroviral (ARV) treatment in poor countries. More than half of those receiving treatment live in Brazil and Thailand, where governments have taken advantage of World Trade Organization flexibility to manufacture their own generic ARVs.

However, Thailand's generic program could be sued by U.S. pharmaceutical companies if the Bush ad-


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
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AIDS walk projections stagnant

by Zak Szymanski

The total amount of money expected to be distributed among community groups by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's 2004 AIDS Walk and AIDS Marathon events is on par with last year's amount, give or take a few thousand dollars.

Although dependent upon the actual AIDS Walk event on Sunday, July 18, funds to be awarded in the form of 38 grants to regional HIV/AIDS agencies are projected to total \$422,500, according to SFAF spokesman Redge Norton, about \$7,000 less than last year. The total amount raised by both the marathon and walk is expected to stay the same, at \$4.9 million.

This amount - given to the Horizons Foundation, which administers the community grants - reflects what is left after SFAF takes a large share (\$1.3 million in 2003) of the raised money and pays production fees for the events (\$155,000 for the 2004 AIDS Walk; marathon production fees were not available by press time).

But how the projections are determined remains unclear. Last year, for instance, the *Bay Area Reporter* quoted SFAF's figures that projected \$370,000 for community-based grants, after \$350,000 was subtracted for needle exchange programs (which were considered a separate legal entity from SFAF at the time) and \$155,000 was taken for AIDS Walk



Actor Bill Brochtrup warmed up the crowd at the 2002 AIDS Walk.

production fees.

This \$370,000 figure was based upon a projected \$3.1 million from the 2003 AIDS Walk and \$2 million raised by the 2003 AIDS Marathon. However, when all was collected, last year's AIDS Walk brought in just \$2.9 million. Yet despite the \$200,000 shortfall, paperwork filed with the state of California indicates that SFAF was able to give \$429,000 for community grants, according to Norton, almost \$60,000 more than originally projected.

Norton said he does not know how or why the agency was able to make less money in 2003 than originally estimated and simultaneously give more than projected. But Roger Doughty, executive director of the Horizons Foundation, said he was never told of a lower estimate for last year's grants, and as such, is planning for

distribution of the \$422,500 estimated this year.

SFAF's prediction about raising the same amount of money as last year - \$2 million from the marathon and \$2.9 million for the AIDS Walk - while giving back about \$7,000 less, could be the result of more realistic expectations, said Norton, "and it also reflects the overall environment."

"We are being optimistic as well as conservative in our projections. Organizations in general are receiving less money from government and private funding sources," said Norton, "and it's amazing we can still give this amount through the community grants process."

Also not always a consistent number, said Norton, is the percentage of funds taken by SFAF for its programs; the agency could take more or less, he said, depending on the year.


Nevertheless, SFAF is modeling its projected piece of this year's pie upon last year's numbers. If everything remains the same, said Norton, SFAF will take about \$1.36 million again this year. This is true, said Norton, even though SFAF's needle exchange program has been brought in-house and is no longer eligible for the stand-alone grants it received as a separate legal entity. The \$350,000 generally targeted for that project will remain intact, but will be a part of the overall SFAF share of the funds raised.

"Our share of AIDS Walk money won't be \$1.36 million plus \$350,000, it's all inclusive," said Norton, adding that the agency will find other ways to make up for any grant shortfalls incurred by bringing needle exchange under the SFAF umbrella. "Our commitment to needle exchange still remains. Even though the funding mechanisms have changed we're not going to turn our back on this population."

Assuming the projections are accurate, the \$422,500 collected by the Horizons Foundation will be distributed according to criteria set by a panel of community members, at least half of whom are HIV-positive.

Last week, Horizons announced the recipients of the raised money, which include organizations in San Francisco, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Contra Costa counties. The organization page 18 ►

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Internet murder case goes to jury

by Ed Walsh

The murder trial of Brian Misquez went to the jury on Wednesday, July 7, three years and one day after Misquez allegedly stabbed Rogelio DeChavez to death 27 times after the pair met over the Internet.

Closing arguments in the five-week trial began on Tuesday, July 6, in Contra Costa County Superior Court in Martinez.

Prosecutor Paul Graves told jurors that the killing was "an execution" and that Misquez was an "angry, violent man," and a "cold-blooded murderer" who killed DeChavez because he felt conflicted about his own homosexual feelings.

When Graves first described DeChavez trying in vain to protect himself from Misquez's attack, DeChavez's sister, Clare Joy DeChavez, gasped and broke down in tears while she looked on from the third row with other relatives. She later sobbed loudly and left the courtroom after gruesome crime scene photos were displayed. DeChavez lived with his sister in El Cerrito. She discovered his body in their apartment when she returned home from work.

Graves lambasted Misquez's testimony when he took the stand in his defense on Thursday, July 1. Misquez insisted that he attacked DeChavez to prevent DeChavez



Defendant Brian Misquez with defense intern Amanda Parks, on Tuesday.

from raping him. Graves reminded jurors that after the killing, Misquez stole DeChavez's car and drove it to the nearby BART station, cashed his paycheck, went out to eat with his girlfriend at a Carl's Jr. restaurant, and saw a movie.

"Those are not the actions of someone who is the victim of an attempted rape," the prosecutor said. "Those are the actions of a cold-blooded murderer."

Graves questioned the credibility of the defense's psychological expert, Dr. Karen Franklin. He said she was influenced to say things favorable to Misquez because the defense paid her

\$14,000. The prosecutor told jurors that in the end, Franklin's dis-

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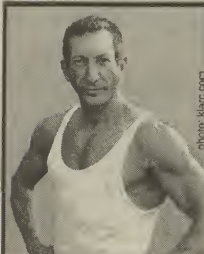
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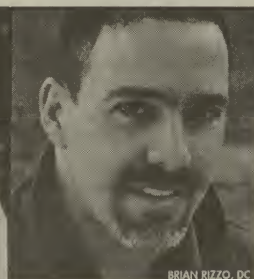
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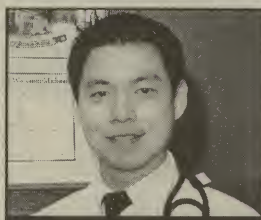
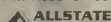
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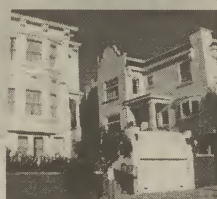
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News in brief

by Cynthia Laird

Supervisors add back AIDS funds

A three-member committee of the Board of Supervisors voted to add back nearly \$1 million in AIDS funding along with \$10 million in additional cuts and savings measures made to the Mayor's Proposed Budget early Saturday morning, July 3.

If approved by the full board on July 27, three AIDS agencies, Shanti, Positive Resource Center, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, will see their funding restored. The health department had originally slated those agencies' programs to be cut.

Other programs saved from the budget ax include eight primary care clinics, which receive more than 100,000 visits per year, mostly from residents lacking health insurance; San Francisco General Hospital's dialysis unit, and three stand-alone mental health clinics.

The supervisor's budget committee made the decisions after being told Friday that the city had an additional \$4 million in extra property transfer taxes and an additional \$2 million in revised property tax projections.

The restoration of \$6 million in slated health services cuts came from \$3.5 million in city general funds and \$2.5 million in related additional revenue, budget chair Gerardo Sandoval announced last week.

Oakland AIDS forum tonight

Current HIV/AIDS treatment options will be the topic at a free community forum in Oakland tonight (Thursday, July 8). The event is sponsored by Bristol-Myers Squibb and takes place from 7 to 9 p.m. at Preservation Park, 1233 Preservation Park Way, in downtown Oakland. The site is near the 12th Street BART station. Dinner will be provided.

Dr. Mark Maus, medical director of the Solano County Medical Clinics, will lead the forum, which will provide participants an opportunity to talk one-on-one with him regarding various treatment options.

According to the Public Health Service Division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 8,633 people in Oakland were living with HIV/AIDS at the end of December 2002.

For more information, call Katie Alexander at (312) 729-4402.

QTV launches Web site

No longer will San Francisco's gay community have to miss an episode or favorite segment of QTV newsmagazine because they could never find it. Executive producer Rahn Fudge recently announced that the show has launched an official QTV Web site that features streaming video of local, pertinent gay stories.

"At least now we don't have to continuously answer the question of when or where people can find the show or worry too much

about whether the show segments would not make it on the air because of fluctuating show-to-show advertising support," said Fudge, who is also host of the newsmagazine-style gay TV show.

Viewers can go to www.qtvnews.tv to catch current segments.

"Each week in our 'News of the Day' window the goal is to have a fresh, local hard-hitting news and entertainment report that's relevant and pertinent to the interests of our local gay viewers," Fudge said.

The Web site will also have an interactive component where viewers can offer their feedback and story suggestions. Right now, viewers can see current news and back segments of QTV.

GAPA pageant Saturday

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance will hold its 16th annual "Runway: Mr. and Miss GAPA Pageant 2004" Saturday, July 10 at the Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue, starting at 7 p.m.

Mr. GAPA 2003, Bobalicious and Miss GAPA 2003, Pussy Catwalk, will crown their successors in this night of fun and fantasy. Hosted by local celebrity Tita Aida, Runway 2004 will also feature special performances by MXM and Freeplay.

"Mr. and Miss GAPA have become role models in the San Francisco community," said board chair Gary Chen. "They have become local celebrities in their own right, and they have made history

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CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO FALL SEMESTER BEGINS AUGUST 18

Space is still available in many Fall Semester 2004 credit classes starting Wednesday, August 18th at City College's of San Francisco **Castro/Valencia Campus**. Listed below is just a sampling of evening classes offered at 1220 Noe Street and 1800 Market Street. Web registration for new students begins July 14th. Telephone registration for new students starts July 26th. **APPLY NOW!**



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70072	French 1A	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 9
74704	French 3B	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 306
76549	French 5	Th 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 301
76330	Fundamentals of PR	M 6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe 304
74708	German 10C	Th 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 205
76365	German 10D	Th 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 205
76364	German 2A	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 205
74666	Improvisation for Actors	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe Aud
76371	Italian 10D	W 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 212
76369	Italian 3B	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 310
75250	Lesbian Relationships	Th 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1800 Market 304
72816	Mixed Media on Paper	TTh 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 18
74856	Poetry for the People	W 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 306
76373	Russian 10C	W 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 203
75280	Russian 1A	M 6:30-9:45 P.M.	1220 Noe 305
72672	Russian 1A	Th 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 312
70105	Russian 1B	T 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 312
76372	Russian 3A	W 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 203
70108	Sex & Gender in US	W 6:30-9:30 P.M.	1220 Noe 110

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Pendulum bar sale heads to court

by Matthew S. Bajko

Claiming he had an oral agreement to buy the Pendulum, a Castro businessman is suing two Castro bar owners in an attempt to block the sale of the city's only gay bar with a predominantly African American clientele.

John MacNeil, the owner of Hortica, a florist shop on Castro Street, sued Pendulum owner Rod Kobila and Les Natali, the owner of SF Badlands and the Detour who is in escrow to buy the Pendulum, in San Francisco Superior Court on June 17.

"I had a done deal with the owner of the Pendulum," said MacNeil, who formed the J&G Entertainment LLC with Gail Irwin in order to purchase the bar. "At the last minute, Les offered more money. I have a suit pending against him for breach of contract."

In their suit, MacNeil and Irwin claim they have suffered damages totaling at least \$500,000 and are entitled to punitive damages.

"We are asking Kobila be ordered to execute and deliver to J&G conveyance of the bar for incidental damages," the two state in their lawsuit. They are also asking that a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, and permanent injunction be issued to halt Natali from closing escrow on the bar. They are also asking that they be awarded all attorneys' fees and court fees.

The court denied MacNeil's request for a temporary restraining order last month, and on July 14, it will review his request for a preliminary injunction to stop the sale from proceeding.

Richard Stephen Goldstein is representing both Kobila and Natali in the case. Reached Tuesday afternoon, Goldstein said there is no merit to MacNeil's suit.

As for MacNeil's claims of an oral agreement, Goldstein said, "It's not grounds for a lawsuit. It requires a signed writing for a deal to be concluded, people don't make oral contracts for big deals." Goldstein said he is confident his clients will prevail in court.

"It didn't work out for them and this allegation of an oral contract is kind of flimsy," he said. "I think we will be successful because he doesn't have a signed writing, meaning he doesn't have a written contract. It is just his way of avoiding the fact he doesn't have a written contract to allege it orally."

This is the second time Natali's desire to purchase a Castro bar has landed in court. Greg Bronstein, the owner of The Bar on Castro, sued Natali over his purchase of the Detour, claiming the owner of the bar, Don Minke, reneged on their deal when Natali offered more money for the Market Street bar.

The two men finally settled their one and half year legal dispute last June, with Natali winning rights to operate the bar for two years. Bronstein, who owns the adjacent space to the Detour, which is now an art gallery, is expected at that time to pursue ownership of the bar in hopes of creating a larger dance club.

African Americans have raised concerns about Natali's purchase

of the Pendulum, fearing if he becomes owner they will no longer have a place of their own in the city's gay neighborhood. They have tried to meet with Natali for months to discuss their issues but had been rebuffed until recently.

Another multi-ethnic group of gay men have made claims that Natali is racist and discriminates against minorities and women at his bars. The Human Rights Commission is seeking mediation in that case, and the state Alcoholic Beverage Control has launched an undercover investigation to determine if there is any merit to the accusations.

Since the group came forward in June, the San Francisco Police Department has requested that the ABC place a 20-day stay on Natali's application to transfer the Pendulum's liquor license. In addition Supervisor Bevan Dufty, numerous LGBT groups, and concerned citizens have written to the ABC asking it not to grant Natali's request until after the HRC completes its review of the matter.

Natali has denied all the accusations against him and has notified the HRC he is amenable to mediation to resolve the matter and prove his innocence. Both sides are set to begin talks later this summer. As he attempts to defend himself and his business practices, Natali has claimed the group making the accusations against him, IsBadlandsBad.com, is actually a smear campaign launched by his competitors.

Group spokesmen have dismissed Natali's charges, saying they are all volunteers and were motivated by the Pride Parade's theme of "Out 4 Justice" to go public with their claims. MacNeil contacted the *Bay Area Reporter* last week to deny he is behind the group coming forward.

"I have no idea who the people are doing the Web site. I have never talked to them. I have never met those guys. I have never e-mailed them," said MacNeil. "My issue is with him. We will fight two separate battles."

Natali is trying to confuse the two separate issues and is doing a "diservice to both parties," said MacNeil.

"It is not to my benefit that Les uses this to confuse the issue. He needs to fight his own battles. His head is on the block and he is using me," MacNeil said.

Lawsuit details

According to the lawsuit, MacNeil and Irwin first approached Kobila in April 2002 to inquire about buying the Pendulum. The partners offered \$325,000 for the bar. The two planned to completely renovate the bar "so that the business would be a first-class gay bar that would attract high paying customers."

The suit states that Kobila's broker William Brown did not respond to MacNeil in writing but that Kobila verbally counter-offered to sell the bar for \$395,000. Both sides orally agreed on a price of \$380,000 for the bar, plus another \$30,000 for inventory, for a total sale price of \$410,000, claims MacNeil.

Brown never sent MacNeil or Irwin a written contract however, and in August of that year, Kobila arranged a meeting with them. At the meeting, Kobila confirmed he wanted to sell the bar to the part-

ners but no longer through Brown, his broker, states the suit.

Over the fall of 2002 the parties met to discuss the sale and by November, MacNeil submitted another formal written offer to Kobila to buy the bar for \$410,000. In addition, MacNeil offered to hire Kobila as a consultant, where he would hire him for two weeks to train him in the operation of the business, and requested he sign a covenant agreeing not to open his own bar in the Castro area for one year.

On November 30, Kobila's lawyer, Andrew Lange, notified MacNeil's broker he was working on a response to the offer. In January 2003, MacNeil sent another offer to Kobila, this time agreeing to put \$280,000 as a down payment for the bar.

According to the suit, it was not until June 2003 that Kobila's lawyer responded to the offer. Throughout the summer of 2003, the two sides submitted offers back and forth, making requested changes to the documents.

After hearing nothing that fall, the suit states MacNeil contacted Kobila in November and requested the two meet. At the meeting on November 21 at MacNeil's store, Kobila agreed the sale would proceed, saying, "That's it. We have a deal. There's nothing else to work out," states the suit.

The two men shook hands and Kobila promised his attorney would complete all the necessary paperwork the next day, states the suit. No paperwork arrived, however, and Kobila's lawyer, Lange, refused to answer MacNeil's brokers' calls, says the suit.

In December, MacNeil learned that Kobila was negotiating with someone else. MacNeil's attorney sent Kobila a letter demanding he honor the terms of their oral agreement. Lange in turn denied the existence of any agreement and said Kobila was negotiating to sell the bar with third parties, says the suit.

On January 22 of this year MacNeil confronted Kobila at the Pendulum, demanding he sell the bar to him and enforce their oral agreement. Kobila refused, states the suit, and asked MacNeil to leave.

MacNeil and Irwin allege that Kobila informed Natali of their oral agreement and that "Les wrongfully induced the [seller] to repudiate and breach the oral agreement."

They also allege that since their bar would compete with Natali's Badlands, which is directly across 18th Street from the Pendulum, that "Kobila immediately informed him of the oral agreement in hope of obtaining more favorable terms." They contend in their suit that Natali wanted to eliminate competition in the neighborhood to further his own economic advantage.

The court has set a case management conference for November. ▼

Full disclosure: Mr. Natali has been a client of Goldstein Gelman Melbostad Gibson and Harris for well over a decade. The firm's representation of Mr. Natali is unrelated to Paul Melbostad being general counsel to the Bay Area Reporter.



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OPEN FORUM

Kerry's veep choice

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry made a bold choice in selecting North Carolina Senator John Edwards as his vice presidential running mate. While Edwards was clearly the favorite of most Democrats and was not a surprising choice, the decision says a lot about Kerry's comfort level and confidence — while he could have picked someone more like himself, Kerry seems to have gone outside the box in a sense. Edwards is someone who complements Kerry in many ways and brings his own strengths to the ticket.

Edwards, after all, is a young 51 years old, and has a campaign style reminiscent of former President Bill Clinton: he is engaging, charismatic, and above all displays a sense of optimism. He will serve Kerry extremely well on the campaign trail and may be able to persuade independent voters — especially those in rural areas — to vote in the Democratic column this November.

Kerry, the longtime Massachusetts senator, is known for his longwinded stump speeches that are often delivered in "Senate-speak." Edwards drew crowds during his presidential run and audiences warmed to his "two Americas" speeches that reached out to the middle class and those at the lower end of the income ladder. While Edwards is a wealthy trial lawyer, he's a product of modest means who attended public schools and had to work hard for what he has achieved. He often reminded voters during the primaries that he was the son of a mill worker and the first person in his family to attend college. In short, his personal story is compelling.

We recognize people don't vote for a president because of the person in the number two slot. But times have changed since John Adams, the country's first vice president, observed that the job is "the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived." One has to look no further than the current vice president, Dick Cheney, to see that the office has become powerful in its own right.

And Cheney's record leaves a lot to be

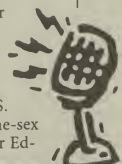
desired. He's held secret energy meetings with those in the industry. He's a central part of President Bush's war cabinet.

Cheney, who has a lesbian daughter, has retracted his 2000 position that individual states should decide whether to offer equal marriage rights to gays and lesbians. He now does President Bush's bidding on social issues and supports the president's call for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would ban same-sex marriage. While neither Kerry nor Edwards support same-sex marriage, they both oppose such an amendment and, in other areas, clearly support equal rights for the LGBT community. Edwards, a first-term senator, is a cosponsor of Senate legislation that would protect gays and lesbians in employment and he signed on as a cosponsor of hate crimes legislation. He op-

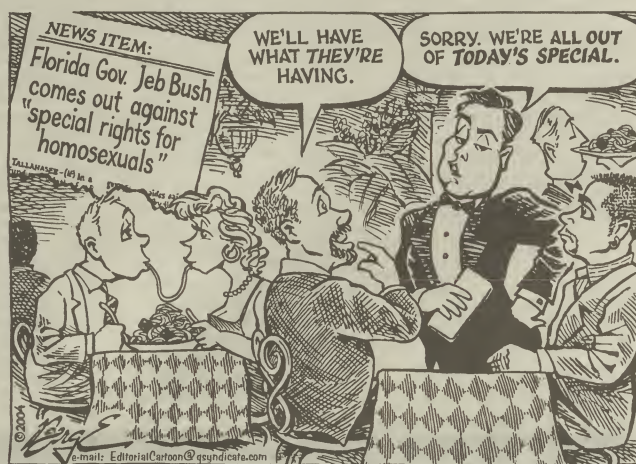
poses "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the homophobic U.S. military policy.

Of course, the Republican National Committee wasted no time in launching an antigay attack against Edwards, criticizing him in a 23-page document for, among other things, his support of equal rights. The National Stonewall Democrats condemned the attacks and Executive Director Dave Noble pointed out that the majority of Americans support employment protections and equal enforcement of hate crimes laws. "It is the Bush administration that is demonstrating how hateful and out of touch it truly is," Noble said.

It's going to be a long, negative campaign, but the Republicans have got to be more than a little concerned about the Kerry-Edwards ticket. And we think Kerry's choice is a good one. ▼



Editorial



Castro has lost its soul

by Brian McConnell

Is Badlands bad? With the recent allegations of racial discrimination, that seems to be the question of the day. I am not a party to the complaint, so I don't know the answer. But, as one of the co-creators of Guerrilla Queer Bar and an amateur observer of gay culture, I thought I'd weigh in. QGB was, in its own way, a reaction to homogeneity of mainstream queer culture in general, and the Castro in particular. While we weren't reacting to specific charges of discrimination, we were responding to the neighborhood's general lack of diversity, an environment that often sets the stage for overt discrimination.

Guerrilla Queer Bar was born in the spring of 2000. At the time, my friends and I resented the neighborhood's stultifying sameness. Consider, for a moment, what you will not find in the Castro, which is supposedly a wild and spontaneous place where anything is possible.

You won't find live bands there (too loud, bitter NIMBY types will complain). You won't find live theatrical performances. You won't find dance clubs that play songs newer than three years old. You won't find a dyke bar. And you won't find a single stripper, or any form of bawdiness for that matter. Go-go boys are a staple at gay bars in New York City, and even during the darkest days of the Giuliani administration they were there to slap you across the face as you ordered a drink in the East Village. There's certainly none of that to be found in the wild, wacky, diverse, no holds barred, anything-goes Castro.

Over the years, I've found the Castro to be a pretty soulless place apart from the high holidays. A transit point, a place to grab lunch, but not a cultural destination. I remember one moment in February in particular. It was Thursday, February 12, the

day the city started recognizing gay marriages. Some friends from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Popcorn Anti-Theatre set up an improvised PA system and played wedding songs to celebrate the moment. Within 10 minutes, somebody above Walgreens had called the police to shut the whole thing down.

Bitter, party of one, your table is ready. I guess somebody got jilted at the altar.

The idea behind Guerrilla Queer Bar was breathtaking in its simplicity. Set up an e-mail list, and send large numbers of homosexuals in varying states of drunkenness reeling about San Francisco and its suburbs. Many people thought our intent was to ape Queer Nation by invading straight clubs and picking fights, when, in fact, our intent was to alleviate our own boredom by exploring our city's environs and by inviting like-minded folk along for the journey. The idea struck a nerve, and turned out to be quite popular for a couple of years. It has since spread to cities nationwide, most recently Washington, D.C. At its core, it was merely a group of bored homosexuals seeking to entertain themselves through a combination of street theatre and public drunkenness.

I moved to San Francisco in the early 1990s, at a time when people were still dropping like flies from AIDS, and being queer still meant being an outcast. Nightlife maven Gregg Taylor referred to this as San Francisco's "dancing in the ovens" period. There is something about being faced with your own mortality that liberates you and makes you live for the day. At some point since then, gayness became a product, and we became a lucrative niche market for branded clothes, liquor, and new improved HIV drugs (drugs that will extend your life

while also disfiguring you, talk about a Faustian bargain). San Francisco in the early 1990s was a truly wild place. It still is. It's just that the gays aren't the ones pushing the artistic and cultural envelope anymore.

For that you have to look to things like Burning Man. Where Burning Man is vital, spontaneous, and outrageously creative on a scale that defies comprehension, the queer community is busy rehashing the same things it was rehashing a decade ago (circuit parties, drag pageants, video bars, Abercrombie & Fitch clothing, crystal meth, to name a few influences). A few creative souls break the mold from time to time, but mostly it feels as if queer culture got encased in amber. This is certainly evident in the Castro's bars (and most queer bars for that matter). I am often envious of my bisexual friends; they seem to have a much wider range of options.

Why is this? I think the answer is pretty simple. The gay community defines itself entirely in terms of sexuality, as if a shared sexual preference implies a shared and unchanging cultural experience. Events like Burning Man, and the societies they create, define themselves as artistic communities. Artistic communities explore and reinvent themselves because art, by definition, is ethereal and depends on the observer's perspective to be relevant.

In an atmosphere of conformity where everyone wants to be liked or get laid, it's no shocker that some people are racist, or sexist, or simply small-minded intolerant assholes. The only thing that is a surprise to me is that this issue did not come up many years ago. The fact that the neighborhood has a designated "black bar" in the first place (why not call it Uncle Tom's Club or Aunt Jemima's while we're at it?), says to me all that needs to be said. ▼

Guest Opinion



LETTERS

We must be vigilant

The recent focus on racism in the Castro evokes memories of the early 1970s. I belonged to BAGL (Bay Area Gay Liberation), an activist group that burned brightly for about a year before succumbing to the usual sectarianism. However, under the initiation of its founders – Howard Wallace and a young African American Claude Wynns – it accomplished some positive actions. Picketing the queer bars that practiced double and triple carding or didn't provide fire safety was a frequent and spontaneous occurrence. Out of this a "Bill of Rights" for patrons and employees of Castro bars was produced by one of BAGL's committees. It had a heavy focus on racism. Later in the 1980s, the group Pomo Afro Homos did a skit on blacks entering a Castro bar and exclaiming, "Hmmm, it snowed in here." In the 1990s the African American queer Democratic club LGADDA (Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action) was successful in getting a law passed about card checks.

Institutionalized racism is difficult to root out in the Castro and everywhere, but the challenge is worth it. Different strategies work on different levels: mediation, civil disobedience, litigation, legislation, and public forums all have a place. As we saw in the cases of Harvey Milk, Cesar Chavez, and Martin Luther King, leadership plays an important role. The going is rocky and edgy and definitely has to be a group effort. Milk often talked about hope, and I share that sentiment in regard to this issue. We all have to be vigilant in the eradication of racism anywhere it raises its ugly head.

Tom Ammiano, Member
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Beyond race and gender

The discrimination policy at Badlands seems to extend beyond race and gender. I am a white male, and twice I have been refused entry to Badlands by separate doormen. Each time, the reason given for refusal to allow me inside was that I was too heavily intoxicated. This was an odd accusation to make, considering the fact that I have not consumed alcoholic beverages in over a decade and only purchase non-alcoholic beverages when I go out dancing.

After the first humiliating experience, I phoned Badlands twice, explaining the situation and requesting a reply from the management. I received no reply whatsoever. After the second bad encounter with a doorman, I realized stating my case to the management would probably do no good.

Now that accusations are coming out in the open that Badlands discriminates against many people, perhaps we should give the Badlands staff what it wants. Maybe we should all stop giving our business to these snobs and let them be exclusive unto themselves.

Lawrence Austin
San Francisco

Surprised at tactics

I followed with interest your coverage of the apparent racial bias in the bars owned by Mr. Natali. I was surprised, to say the least, by Mr. Natali's accusations that the group of activists IsBadlandBad.com is in fact working at the service of a competing bar owner ["Bar owner alleges a competitor is behind the racist charges," June 24.] I have personally known John Newsome and Don Romesburg for years and hold them to be outstanding individuals whose credibility is beyond doubt.

On the other hand, Mr. Natali's attempt to discredit his opponents rather than respond to the issues and evidence raised by them hints of unclean consciences. I am more inclined now than before to believe that the evidence brought up so far is indicative of an intentional policy of discrimination.

Zvika Rimalt
San Francisco

Alice Club weighs in

The Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club was established over 30 years ago to fight for equality and inclusion for all members of our community. We do not accept discrimination against us by anyone, particularly by those within the LGBT business community and community at large.

Too often we turn a blind eye to discrimination in the heart of our gay mecca – because it's hard to make sense out of discrimination by members of our own community. Too often we talk about not feeling included in the Castro, not seeing ourselves in the Castro restaurants or stores, not having any bars for lesbians and very few that are truly diverse. Yet we often do not take a stand and address these acts of discrimination.

We are proud that members of our community have voiced what many of us have felt: discrimination exists in the Castro – it exists in one of the most liberal neighborhoods in one of the most liberal cities in the country.

Alice B. Toklas firmly supports the efforts of the group, IsBadlandsBad.com, to address and combat discrimination in our community. We stand with Supervisor Bevan Dufty and others who have called on

the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the San Francisco Human Rights Commission to investigate allegations of discrimination at Badlands and the Detour.

And we strongly support the continuation of a broader dialogue about discrimination in our community. By bringing forth these allegations, many people who have experienced discrimination will now feel free to come forward and not feel alone or afraid.

Alice members remember fighting this exact type of discrimination years ago, when many bars asked for two forms of identification and made women and people of color feel unwelcome. They fought it then, and though we should not have to fight those same battles now, we will fight them, stronger than ever before, and we will work to have businesses respect each and every customer that walks through their doors. If they do not, then we should not patronize them. Period.

Laura Spanjian and Rich Kowalewski, Co-Chairs
Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club
San Francisco

Location, location, location

As a resident of Upper Market I discourage in every way possible the proposed Trader Joe's store to be located at the intersection of 15th Street, Sanchez and Market Streets ["Trader Joe's eyes Castro location," June 3].

I think Trader Joe's is a fine company. I shop, on a regular basis, any one of two stores within a 10-minute drive from my home. I do not feel that the proposed store in our neighborhood is either necessary or appropriate. The proposed location is wrong, wrong, wrong.

Anyone who has experienced the traffic nightmare at Trader Joe's Masonic Street location can readily see the potential for creating the same situation, magnified tenfold, at the proposed Market Street site. We residents must do whatever we can to ensure that this does not happen. The quiet charm of this residential neighborhood should not be compromised by the desire of Trader Joe's for additional stores in San Francisco.

There are many areas in our beautiful San Francisco that will be much better served by another Trader Joe's.

Joseph J. Titi Jr.
San Francisco

Site poor location for TJ's

I don't support the proposed site location for Trader Joe's. It is just a matter of site practicality, not their products. The lot is too small. I ask readers to consider the following concerns:

1) The long tractor-trailer deliveries come late at night or early in the morning and will be disruptive to the residences on 15th, Sanchez, and Henry streets both by noise and street blockage.

2) The lot is situated at a three-way light controlled signal system that currently limits crossover times and proves dangerous even now. At the Safeway store there are at least four entrances and exits on larger width streets away from residences.

3) Firefighters must periodically park their long vehicles on Sanchez Street either overhanging or parallel to the street to clean trucks and service the station. Once the streets are blocked with traffic it will impede safety response.

4) Neighboring residences will be adversely affected by the anticipated creation of a red zone from six to eight street parking spaces that will need to be removed permanently so that cars entering during store hours have a place to pull over and idle while waiting in line for a parking space.

5) Raw land is available at the old Central Freeway site or the old UC Extension building that possibly could be available to incorporate sufficient space for Trader Joe's and customers' needs. There are other areas convenient to Noe Valley, Castro, and west of Twin Peaks such as Inner Mission, Cesar Chavez Street (i.e. Blockbuster's), the 3rd Street corridor and other points with freeway access and close to Bayshore Boulevard.

6) Cala Foods on 18th Street has only 16 parking spaces. Why is Trader Joe's allowed to have 48? There is an unfair disadvantage to the existing merchants by allowing increased parking at that site.

7) Trader Joe's stores in Boston, Washington, D.C. and on Masonic in San Francisco have been failures for accessibility by shoppers. San Francisco should have a proper environmental feasibility study for the 15th and Sanchez Street site reflecting public safety and the impact on neighboring residences as well as residential property values.

8) Visualize the practicality of people carrying plastic bags or pushing carts to their cars and crossing Market Street, at this three-way intersection, while a line of cars are waiting to enter/exit the store. Maybe more and longer red curbs will help those idle cars?

It boils down to the wrong site.

John V. Giusti
San Francisco

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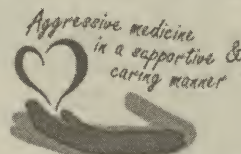


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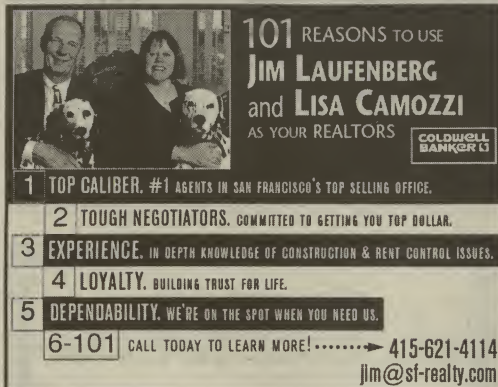
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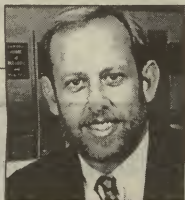


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'Isn't it obvious?'

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

The Alameda County court case in the murder of transgender teenager Gwen Araujo ended in mistrial last month, leaving the fate of her alleged killers – and Araujo's family – in limbo.

This murder has been near to my heart from the beginning. Because of my work with the Remembering Our Dead project and the Transgender Day of Remembrance, I was initially following this death in the same fashion as the other 300 cases I have chronicled.

Yet this one was different. Aside from the obvious fact that she and I shared the same first name, this was a story that was nothing short of shocking in its brutality. This young woman was allegedly slowly killed over the course of several hours, during an intimate house party in Newark, California. She was then disposed of roughly 150 miles from home – and her killers swore not to let anyone know what happened

to this young girl who they discovered had male genitalia.

In October 2002, I attended Araujo's funeral, and looked directly at her lifeless body. I changed that day, likely forever. My work as a transgender activist – something I had been pursuing for roughly a decade at that time – became a passion. I could not live another day in a world where this sort of cruelty could be accepted.

Since then, we've gone through a preliminary hearing and one trial at this first attempt at convictions for the defendants, each time learning more and more details about Araujo's final hours. According to testimony, she had been hit with a soup can and a skillet, been kicked in the head so hard that it left a dent on the wall behind her, and finally strangled to death.

We've heard how these four suspects (one pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in exchange for his testimony and an 11-year prison sentence) were more concerned with getting blood out of the front room than with the fact that they beat the owner of that blood, and how they went out for breakfast at McDonald's after burying her in a shallow grave – as if nothing had happened.

Over time, I've also gotten to know Araujo's family, and each of them has become dear to me. Their dedication to seeing this case through, and their love for each other, is an inspiration. It also breaks my heart to see them have to go through this whole process again, once more reliving the events of October 3 and 4, 2002.

Recently I was, with Gwen's mother, Sylvia Guerrero. We were heading over to her residence, which she is currently sharing with a relative. On the way there, she took us by one other house – the scene of the murder.

It's a home not unlike the one I grew up in, and as visibly nondescript as any other tract house. It sits an eighth of a mile from the local police station, and perhaps as many as two long blocks from the very place where

Araujo's mother is now residing. If Araujo had been able to get out of the house she was killed in just one of the three times she tried, this column wouldn't exist, and she would not be reduced to a handful of ashes in a pretty box.

The first trial was much like any other, with a prosecutor trying to convict three individuals, and their attorneys trying to prove their innocence. What made it different was the issue of Gwen's gender identity – an issue that the defense sought to emphasize just as much as the DA attempted to downplay.

The way much of the defense went was familiar to anyone who recalls nearly any other murder involving a gay or transgender person. The defendants were "deceived," and when they realized that they had been intimate with a man, well, they "freaked out."

This so-called trans panic defense is being presented as if murdering another human being is perfectly reasonable behavior when there's a transgender person involved. It is as if this is some sort of sick morality play, where Gwen Araujo deceived the wrong people, and simply got what she deserved for doing so. Never mind that Araujo was murdered, and killing another human being is still a crime – even in these days of



Christine Smith

preemptive wars.

When her tormentors questioned Araujo as to whether she was a man or a woman, she was reported as saying three simple words: "Isn't it obvious?" That should lie at the heart of this case. To Araujo, she was not out to deceive anyone – she was living her life as any other 17-year-old girl. If there was panic, it wasn't because Araujo deceived anyone, but rather it is because her killers were insecure in their own identities – and insecurity should not be taken as just cause for murder.

The jury was deadlocked after the first trial, paving the way for a second trial into Araujo's death. Depending on whom you talk to, the jury either discounted the trans panic defense, or they hung because of it.

Because of this, the family will yet again go through heart-wrenching testimony, and get to listen to lawyers tell the jury that those who killed their daughter, sister, and niece were nice, upstanding men who were victimized – men who seemingly had no other option but to kill.

I've not slept much since last week, when Sylvia Guerrero took me by the house in which Araujo died. Yet again I find myself changed by the experience, and knowing that we are all in a world where murders like this still happen – and will happen again. We all deserve better than this, and it's up to us to demand the right to be ourselves – and live.

It's the least we should be able to expect: a world without more Gwen Araujos. ▼

Gwen Smith applauds the recent court decision to legally change Gwen Araujo's name posthumously. You can find her on the Web at www.gwensmith.com.

Moms and babies on the Fourth



Jane Philomen O'Leary

Mom Robin, left, held son Levi, and Diane held son Benjamin Julian as mom Theresa looked on (the families declined to give their last names) at the "We Are Family" picnic Sunday, July 4 at Yerba Buena Gardens. The event included performances by the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, Dixieland Dykes +3, and Jackie Jones and her tap-dancing cat. The daylong event was sponsored by Children of Gays and Lesbians Everywhere, the Jon Sims Center for the Arts, the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, Parents Families and Friends of Gays, and the Yerba Buena Ice Skating Rink.

State initiatives: One bad, one good

by Wayne Friday

In addition to electing a president, a United States senator, House members and state legislators, California voters have no less than 14 statewide initiatives to decide this November (not to mention the local propositions that our Board of Supervisors are loading up the local ballot with) and as Election Day approaches I will try to discuss some of them, but two statewide measures — Propositions 60 and 62 — deserve particular attention.

In my opinion, among the more insidious measures California voters will see this November is Proposition 62, which masquerades as an "open primary" but in reality eliminates primaries altogether. Proposition 62 would model California's elections after Louisiana's, which features a two-stage general election. In that system only the top two vote getters — regardless of party affiliation — advance to the general election. Thus, two Democrats or two Republicans could face one another in the general election, and, in most cases, minor party and independent candidates would be completely excluded. In the case of San Francisco, assuming current trends continue, Democrats would likely face Democrats in general elections, duking it out for an entire year instead of for a few months during primary season.

In a real open primary, voters can vote for a candidate of another party, but the top vote getter of each party advances to the general election — allowing Democrats, Republicans, Green, Reform, Peace and Freedom, Libertarian, and American Independent candidates the possibility of being represented.

Fortunately, there is a reasonable alternative on the November ballot. Although some are criticizing the state Legislature for placing Proposition 60 on the ballot, thereby maintaining and improving the status quo, I applaud lawmakers for acting to combat the clearly misguided Proposition 62.

Proposition 60 preserves a primary system that has served our democracy well for over 100 years, and at the same time mandates that any funds derived from the sale of surplus state property must be used to pay down the state's debt. Proposition 60 is good common sense and sound fiscal policy, and deserves the support in November of voters of all political persuasions. It might be nearly five months until the November 2 general election, but this one is easy — vote yes on state Proposition 60, and no on 62. It guarantees voters of all political persuasions a say in how the state is run.

Politics and people

Speaking of state propositions, Republican Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** is opposing a November ballot measure (Proposition 66) that would reform California's tough three strikes sentencing law. Schwarzenegger and GOP backers could get bitten on this one, however, as most Californians likely believe — hopefully



David Mixner, left, with John Kerry at a National Stonewall Democrats' reception in 2002. Looking on are Howard Dean and former NSD director Chad Johnson. Mixner will be at an East Bay LGBT fundraiser for Kerry on July 18.

— that Proposition 66 restores justice to the 1994 law by requiring that a convicted felon be eligible for the maximum 24-years-to-life sentence only when the third offense is "violent or serious." While hardened criminals should be given hard-time sentences, it does not make sense to keep small-time crooks like shoplifters and junkies held hostage by a lock-'em-up-at-any-cost system. I'll have more on the other state propositions in future columns.

Arnold wants to hear from you: Several readers have e-mailed us about a telephone hotline Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's office has set up to seek public opinion on a wide range of issues, including same-sex marriage. The hotline — (916) 445-2841 — is often busy, but callers who are persistent should be able to get through. The *Sacramento Bee's* **Dan Smith** noted on Monday, however, that no one in Schwarzenegger's office could say how the information is used, other than to note that it provides "a highly unscientific measure of how people feel on certain issues."

Meanwhile, the high-flying Schwarzenegger, who ran for governor vowing to end the annual "summer slam fest" in Sacramento where the budget deadline always comes and goes without a new state spending plan (both the gov and the Legislature left the Capitol last week for the Fourth of July holiday without approving a budget), was finding out that it was indeed the Republican legislators, not the Democratic majority, who were seemingly giving him the most trouble. Welcome to Sacramento big-time politics, Arnold.

And in Washington, D.C., the GOP-controlled Senate is putting on a gay-marriage dance by announcing plans to call for a vote next week on a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. The measure is almost certain to fail, but Senate Majority Leader **Bill Frist** (R-Tennessee) wants to force Democrats — most of whom oppose the amendment, as does the party's presumptive presidential nominee, Massachusetts Senator **John Kerry** — to put their opposition on record in the hope that the issue will hurt them this fall. Some GOP opponents of the amendment, however, are warning that Frist's political play with same-sex marriage will put Republicans on the spot as well.

Indeed, Senator **Lincoln Chafee** (R-Rhode Island) told *Time* magazine that he is organizing GOP moderates who oppose the amendment — and even some conservatives who object to tinkering with the Constitution — to "send a message" to Frist and the Bush White House that it's a losing cause. Even Senate Republicans predict that Frist will have trouble mustering a simple majority, much less the two-thirds needed to pass the amendment, but the GOP Senate majority leader is clearly taking his orders from **Karl Rove** and the White House on this one.

More on same-sex marriage: Readers may remember the *Bay Area Reporter's* articles a few months back when *San Francisco Chronicle* City Hall reporter **Rachel Gordon** and her spouse, *Chronicle* photographer **Liz Mangelsdorf**, were bounced from the gay wedding beat in March, after the longtime couple wed. Now, Gordon, in an e-mail interview with *Editor & Publisher's* **Carl Sullivan**, says she still disagrees with *Chronicle* management's decision to ban her and Mangelsdorf from the story, though she understands the decision. "All Liz and I asked for was for the editors to keep an open mind and to listen to a differing perspective on the issue of conflict/potential conflict in this case. I am not confident they have," Gordon told the magazine. "And that's too bad. Perhaps in time they will — not necessarily change their minds, but at least respect the differences of opinion, which have been emerging."

Presidential politics: Hey, one can easily imagine John Kerry hitting the campaign trail on a bus tour of rural America, but **Dick Cheney**? The White House usually has the hatchet-man veep safely hunkered down in some undisclosed location, but, believe it or not, there was Cheney, wife **Lynne**, and 10-year-old granddaughter **Kate**, boarding a bus in Cleveland last weekend, mingling with the common people as the highly-protected bus rolled through the hills of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, with a tightly-scripted stop at the Pro Football Hall of Fame and more than a few not-so-public GOP fundraisers. Cheney's campaign style, however, leaves a lot to be desired. The *New York Times* reported Monday that at a stop in Altoona, Pennsylvania, the veep didn't handle the excited crowd too well. "You guys want to hear this speech or not?" he asked, not angrily but not quite kidding, ac-

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Medical marijuana news roundup

by Liz Highleyman

Residents of two East Bay cities will vote this fall on whether to liberalize laws regulating the use of marijuana.

In Berkeley, voters will weigh in on a measure that would extend additional protections to patients who use medical cannabis. Sponsors of the Patients Access to Medical Cannabis Act announced last week that they collected more than the 2,077 signatures required to qualify the initiative for the November 2 ballot.

The proposed act would overturn Berkeley's current 10-plant limit, allowing patients to grow as much marijuana as they need. In addition, the measure would set up a review committee to oversee the city's four medical cannabis dispensaries, and would direct the city to grow and distribute marijuana to patients if the federal government closes the existing dispensaries.

Activists began their signature drive this spring after the Berkeley City Council failed to endorse a

proposal by openly gay Council member Kriss Worthington to increase the number of allowable cannabis plants to 72.

Next door in Oakland, voters will consider an initiative intended to end the prohibition on marijuana use for medical or non-medical purposes.

The Oakland Cannabis Initiative would direct police and prosecutors to make marijuana law enforcement their lowest priority, and would ask the state to devise a system for taxing and regulating marijuana, but with stricter limits than those currently in place for alcohol. Under such a system marijuana use would be limited to adults, would not be permitted in public places, and could not be publicly advertised. (For the full text of the initiative see www.taxandregulate.org.)

The Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance succeeded in gathering 32,000 signatures – 12,000 more than needed to place the measure on the fall ballot. A poll taken this spring found that 70 percent of voters supported the initiative.

The measure has already re-

ceived the endorsements of Oakland City Council member Nancy Nadel, Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley, and state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara).

"This is common sense policy," openly lesbian elected official Rebecca Kaplan told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We're spending money imprisoning nonviolent offenders when we don't have enough pay schoolteachers."

Kaplan, a member of the AC Transit District Board of Directors, compared the "conspiracy of silence" around marijuana prohibition to sentiments about sodomy laws. "It's hard to find any argument that there's any benefit to imprisoning people for private consensual behavior that doesn't harm anyone else," she said. "But people must get over their social discomfort in order for better policy to emerge."

In related news, the U.S. Supreme Court announced on June 28 that it has decided to hear the Bush administration's appeal of a Ninth Circuit Court ruling prohibiting the Department of

Justice from interfering with state medical marijuana laws. The case will be heard during the court's upcoming fall session.

In December 2003, a three-judge panel from the Ninth Circuit ruled in the *Raich v. Ashcroft* case that the federal government does not have constitutional authority to prosecute patients who use medical cannabis in states with medical marijuana laws, as long as no commercial transactions are involved and the cannabis is grown, obtained, and used within the same state. The justices issued an injunction prohibiting the federal government from taking action against patients or their caregivers. In April, a U.S. district judge extended the ruling to patient cooperatives such as the Wo/Men's Alliance for Medical Marijuana in Santa Cruz.

"For both moral and constitutional reasons, the Supreme Court should uphold the Ninth Circuit's ruling," said Marijuana Policy Project Executive Director Robert Kampia. "Sick and suffering patients should not have to live in fear of armed federal agents

breaking down their doors to take away their medicine."

In the meantime, Congress is expected to vote this week on an appropriations bill amendment by Representatives Maurice Hinchey (D-New York) and Dana Rohrabacher (R-California) stating that no funds allocated to the Justice Department may be used to interfere with patients' access to cannabis in states with medical marijuana laws. California and eight other states currently have such laws.

Last year the Hinchey-Rohrabacher amendment received 152 votes in the House – a number MPP's Steve Fox characterized as "shockingly low" given that polls consistently show that 70-80 percent of voters support medical marijuana laws. ▼

SOMA hate crime witnesses wanted

by Zak Szymanski

The San Francisco Police Department and Community United Against Violence are asking any witnesses to an alleged hate crime attack in the South of Market District over Pride weekend to come forward.

According to reports, on Sunday June 27 at about 3:15 a.m., between 11th and Folsom streets, five queer-identified women and one transgender male were on their way to a party when two male suspects began yelling antigay (to the male victim) and anti-lesbian (to the female victims) comments.

One of the alleged verbal harassers, an African American male, left the scene as it started to heat up. However, the white male, identified as Bryant Kirchner, allegedly continued harassing the group, and then physically attacked several people. As Kirchner attempted to flee he was successfully detained by the transgender male who held him until police arrived. Several neighbors and other potential witnesses stopped to help the victims. Some of the victims sustained injuries, including a broken nose, black eyes, and soreness around the head and face.

Kirchner is still in custody and being held on several felony aggravated assault charges for a bail of \$500,000, according to SFPD Inspector Sally DeHaven with the hate crimes unit.

"It's a big bail, because there are a lot of charges, and the DA felt it was warranted," said DeHaven, who added that she has not seen a case like this in a while. "It's an unfortunate situation."

Kirchner is scheduled to be arraigned Friday July 9, at the Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant Street, at 9 a.m. in Department 11.

Anybody with information about the crime is asked to call DeHaven at (415) 553-9140, or Tina D'Elia at CUAUV, at (415) 777-5500, ext. 304. ▼

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The following is excerpted from <http://www.joefire.com> "the joefire Perspective," June 21, 2004.
Joefire.com is operated by Eric Allen, an African-American and a patron of Badlands.

Is SF-Badlands Bad?

the joefire Perspective

While most of you know nothing of it, there's a new war being launched in the Castro. Like the wars that have preceded it, drama is the word of the day.

Seems that a number of people have banded together to suggest that the owner of a several bars that cater to gay people in the Castro has any number of problems. San Francisco reporter Matthew S. Bajko wrote an excellent piece for the Bay Area Reporter that provided a very full picture of the issues involved.

Last week these people called together a hastily planned press conference where they presented these accusations (and an ever growing list of other accusations) to members of the media and community...and so it began. After reviewing all of the materials provided by the group and reading Matthew's article I find all of this very, very suspicious.

The people behind these complaints contend that the allegations are coming after a six month investigation. They claim that they've collected complaints from a wide cross-section of SF-Badlands patrons and employees. And, of course, they claim that their only goal is to make sure that there's justice in the world and blah-blah-blah-blah-blah.

The group freely admits that while they have any number of demands for Natali that they didn't speak with him directly about these complaints in advance of the press conference. In fact, the group's spokesperson essentially said that before he'd be willing to speak to Natali that he wants Natali to respond to the allegations with promises to adjust his business practices.

SF-Badlands has been around for FOUR YEARS! In that time, the place has remained pretty much the same. So, we're either to believe that Natali recently changed his business practices and blacks noticed or we're to believe that black men have been putting up with this crap for four years and it's just now that we've had it up to here!

I'm not buying it!

There's concern by some that Natali will change the Pendulum into something other than a dump and thus drive out it's current customer base...These attacks on Natali and SF-Badlands come across as a very thinly veiled attempt to negatively impact the transfer of the Pendulum's liquor license to Natali. Unfortunately, the people behind this have chosen some pretty hot-button issues in order to affect getting this done.

On the issues:

Employment practices that discriminate... How many black bartenders are there in the Castro during the evenings at any bar? How many women? Don't blast me with mail pointing out the numbers - just note that whatever the number it's small...If complaints are to be made on this score - why single out Natali?

Stated music policy against playing rap music...I'm going to say it - we're going to get mail on it but I do not care: Nobody goes to SF-Badlands to hear rap music! That's not Natali's fault - the folks who spend money in that bar are clearly happy with the music Natali plays. SF-Badlands plays MTV video...for the most part with enough of a sprinkle of decent dance music to keep the dance floor full. No rap. And that's FINE with the folks who show-up.

On if there is some funny business going on with checking the ID's, I strongly doubt that it's directed at folks based on race. Bars in the Castro are about making money - show-up ready to spend money and keep down the drama quotient and bars are more than happy to have you in their place - black/white/blue/brown.

On requiring black men to prove to doormen they have money to buy drinks: I'm going to say it -- people aren't going to like it -- but I'm going to say it: I JUST PLAIN AND SIMPLY DON'T BELIEVE THIS ONE! I don't. Period. I think the person claiming it either lied or made it up or maybe they just out and out lied. But I don't believe it. Is it possible that some doorman made such a request? Sure? But the likelihood that a successful bar owner would have such a policy --- come on. I'm just not buying it.

This whole thing rings to me as some kind of 21st Century shake-down...Natali has been operating the SF-Badlands for FOUR YEARS and no one has said one word - now he buys the Pendulum and suddenly he's one of the Castro's worst employers.

I'm just not buying it.

...The timeline is questionable; the investigation looks shady; and the fact that these people didn't offer Natali the opportunity for a sit-down before labeling him a racist - a very serious charge - is horrible. The nature of Natali's business speaks to why they're will always be people willing to come forward and accuse him of any number of things. But calling someone a racist -- that's heavy handed. And as racism does really still exist such a charge ought to only be made once every other possibility has been examined. To do this - these people should have -- at a minimum - spoken with Natali.

They didn't - And that alone speaks volumes for their motives.

The above is excerpted from Joefire.com, June 21, 2004. To read the entire "Joefire Perspective," please go to <http://joefire.com>

Racial allegations in the Castro

Certain negative allegations and statements made toward SF Badlands and the Detour are unfair and deserve a second opinion. I have been a VJ at Badlands since 2001. In a media release and complaint filed with Alcoholic Beverage Control, only portions of so-called incidents have been stated and are one-sided.

Badlands is a video dance bar. That we don't play country, classical, or hard rock music does not mean that we discriminate against people who enjoy those genres as well. We are also sometimes limited to certain genres based on subscriptions to multiple video services.

As for the allegation that out of the 45 people employed at both bars, only a few were "non-white," as of May 31, 15 out of the 45 people are multiracial.

The staff members of Badlands and Detour are a close-knit group of people that are almost like family. We are proud group of people that enjoy serving and entertaining the entire community; gay, straight, male or female no matter what your ethnicity, religion, or beliefs are. If you're from around the corner or around the world we welcome you to the Badlands and Detour.

Ron Scharffer
San Francisco

Badlands is not bad

Les Natali has many people of color working for him. I am black and Jewish and tend bar at the Badlands part time. How exactly did the group do its research? There are many different shades of blackness. Before going public with such serious allegations, you need to do your homework first. Come in and get a drink from me and I will tell you how things really are from a black man's perspective. Les has always treated me with the utmost respect and professionalism. The staff and I are in full support of Les Natali.

Brian Bloom
San Francisco

NOTE:

As of July 7, neither I nor my attorney (Paul Melbostad) have been provided with copies of the complaints. We have requested a meeting with the Human Rights Commission to respond to the allegations.

Les Natali

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Kerry better vote

by Dale Carpenter

Sometime the week of July 12 the U.S. Senate will likely vote on the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment, which would ban gay marriage across the nation. Since few observers believe the amendment will get the requisite two-thirds super-majority needed to pass, the vote will be a cynical attempt by Republican leaders to make gay marriage a campaign issue. Any Democrat who votes against the amendment is likely to be baited on the issue in the future. John Kerry must rise to the bait.

Let's be clear where the blame for this atrocious amendment lies. It is squarely on the shoulders of the GOP, where all antigay rhetoric and legislation in this country are born. Despite the strenuous efforts of the Alliance for Marriage to make the FMA seem a bipartisan cause, the sponsors are overwhelmingly Republican. In the Senate, the only Democrat to sponsor the amendment was Georgia's Zell Miller, who's a Democrat in name only. With a few noble and principled exceptions, Republicans support the FMA.

Then there are the Democrats. At the national level, they've been cotton candy for the gay civil rights movement. All sweet and no substance, they puff out and then evaporate into nothing. The litany of their failures, and excuses for failure, is familiar. Bill Clinton

came in promising big, soothing us with nice words, but delivered little and signed the two most antigay pieces of federal legislation ever enacted. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was a direct consequence of his willingness to talk like a big guy and pay like a little guy. He proposed lifting what had been an executive policy banning military service by open homosexuals, then retreated as soon as he encountered resistance.

The Defense of Marriage Act, which banned federal recognition of gay marriages, was even worse. Clinton signed the bill as if ashamed of it, and then touted his support on Christian radio stations. In typical Clinton fashion, he wanted to have his cake and eat it, too. Democrats almost completely abandoned us on both DADT and DOMA.

Cheney during the 2000 campaign (but retracted this year).

But Kerry has not been all light and truth on gay marriage. He opposes it, he says, because, well, he just believes marriage is between a man and a woman and, you know, it's a sacrament. It's the sort of stammering response you get from someone who's saying something just because he thinks it's good politics. I suppose that's better than being opposed in principle to gay marriage because at least it augurs a change when the wind shifts. But it doesn't say much for Kerry's ability to lead.

Worse, Kerry supported amending the Massachusetts Constitution to ban gay marriage as long as civil unions were allowed. Think about that for a moment. If the position of the Democrats' standard-bearer were adopted universally, the result would be to ban gay marriage in

OutRight

Kerry's vote against the Federal Marriage Amendment would be a start. It's the least he can do.

On DOMA, there were exactly 14 dissenters among Senate Democrats. One of them was John Kerry. Kerry said that he opposed DOMA because it was "nothing more than gay-bashing on the floor of the Senate." (He also said he thought DOMA was unconstitutional, a view he's since retracted.) He was right. There was no good reason for DOMA, even if one opposed gay marriage on policy grounds. Gay marriage was legal nowhere in the country in 1996. There was little likelihood states would be forced to recognize other states' gay marriages, even if it became legal somewhere.

Similarly, there is no good reason to support the FMA, even if one opposes gay marriage. Sure, gay marriage is now legal in one state, Massachusetts. But that is Massachusetts' business; the states have always defined marriage as they see fit. And if it's judicial activism that bothers you, the states are responsible for policing the excesses of their own courts, as they always have been. So when the FMA comes up for a vote the week of July 12, it will be, to borrow a phrase, "nothing more than gay-bashing on the floor of the Senate."

Kerry has announced he opposes the FMA. He thinks the matter should be left to the states, which is the sensible position taken by Dick

all 50 states. That's just what the FMA would accomplish.

So when the Senate votes on the FMA, where will Kerry be? Up to now, he's been spending all his time moving around the country campaigning and raising money, which is perfectly understandable for a candidate in a tight race against a well-funded incumbent president. He's missed a lot of votes over the past few months. But he has come back to Washington to vote when it really mattered to him.

Well, a lot of the money he's been raising the past few months has come from gay people. I suggest that when the FMA comes up for a vote, he take a break from taking our money. This isn't a vote on an appropriation for a new post office in Poughkeepsie. It's about stamping second-class status for gay Americans into our most sacred political document.

This election, we must get more from the Democrats than kind words. We must start to demand real commitment and real progress. Kerry's vote against the FMA would be a start. It's the least he can do. ▼

Dale Carpenter can be reached at OutRight@aol.com. Some of his past columns can be read at www.indigayforum.com.

HOW NOT TO SELECT AN ATTORNEY

Joe thought he had grounds for a lawsuit against his employer. He created a list of prospective attorneys from names he got from the Bar Association, the Martindale-Hubbell Directory and the Yellow Pages. Joe chose five candidates and sent a letter to each explaining his case. One of the attorneys invited Joe to interview and Joe signed a contingency fee agreement with that attorney.

It sounds like a happy ending; doesn't it? Joe found an attorney. But Joe will never know what this process cost him.

One of Joe's letters, after its arrival at a law firm, was given to an "intake paralegal." The paralegal prepared it for submission to the firm's committee responsible for choosing new cases. That paralegal was - and still is - married to the half brother of the employer Joe wanted to sue! Can you guess the conversation that night between the paralegal and her husband? More importantly, can you guess the conversation between the paralegal's husband and his half brother the following weekend?

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Gay men's health center marks one year

by Matthew S. Bajko

Over the last year Magnet has pulled gay men into its Castro location not just for HIV testing or STD checkups, but for art openings, dating lectures, and most recently, a salon for crystal meth users.

In the 12 months it has been open — the gay men's health center marks its first birthday Friday, July 9 — Magnet has surpassed its founders' expectations and is being touted by health officials as a model needed in some of the city's other neighborhoods.

"It is a great model. We need it in the Polk, South of Market, and the Bayview. It is a great model of getting community members and various communities in the city to say 'How do we best address our health care needs?'" said Steven Tierney, the health department's director of HIV prevention.

Last summer when Magnet opened its doors, the center's executive director, Steven Gibson, kept his expectations low. He hoped 1,200 gay and bisexual men would seek out Magnet's menu of health services in its first year. Instead, as of this week, the center has seen more than 3,000 men.

"It is almost three times as many men as we expected. It took about six weeks for Magnet to catch on, not six months as I



Magnet Executive Director Steven Gibson is pleased with the health center's first year of operation.

thought," said Gibson.

Originally open only four days a week — Wednesday through Saturday — Magnet is now open Tuesdays as well. The staff set the hours from noon to 6 p.m. so that men who work in the restaurant or bar business would be able to come in before their 4 p.m. shifts.

Magnet hopes to offer rapid HIV testing this August and is in talks to begin offering hepatitis B screening and anal Pap smears. Also Gibson said, "We may extend our hours depending on how grants go."

Myth shattered

Magnet's success, argue Gibson and Tierney, dispels the myth that gay men do not care about their health.

"I think it is an important message to the gay community that a group of gay men got together and put together this idea and turned it into a working center by gay men for gay men," said Tierney. "The message there is we take care of ourselves and each other, that is the important thing."

Gibson added that the notion that gay men value their health and that of their partners is, in a certain respect, a radical statement to make.

"Ofentimes when you read the mainstream or gay press, the headlines don't say gay men value their health. It tends to be all about HIV rates on the rise, bareback sex, or crystal meth," he said. "If you were visiting from another planet and read these headlines you wouldn't think gay men cared about their health."

Turning an old pharmacy building on 18th Street a few feet up from Castro Street into a health center, Gibson and his staff set out to change that misperception. They created a space where gay sex is celebrated and HIV is seen as only part of gay men's health paradigm. In addition to STDs, the community group of gay men advising Magnet wanted it to also build a sense of community and address topics like self-esteem, depression, and drug use.

"We are defining gay men's health as mind, body, and spirit, not just diseases. HIV is certainly part of our lives but it is not the defining aspect of our lives. Our health is more broad than positive or negative," explained Gibson.

Magnet offers free hypnotherapy sessions the second and third Tuesdays of the month as well as

ear acupuncture by the Immune Enhancement Project each Wednesday afternoon and massage on Friday afternoons.

To enrich the mind, Magnet has hosted lectures and art openings. This month it is displaying the surviving murals from the Bulldog Baths, on loan from the GLBT Historical Society. The murals, painted onto the drywall and recovered after the infamous bathhouse was closed, offer a rare sight into gay history from the 1970s to 80s. On Friday nights Magnet hosts a lounge from 7 to 9 p.m., where a DJ sets up his turntables in its storefront window and men are invited to just hang out.

The center also launched a popular open mike night called Smack Dab, hosted by Kirk Read and Larry-bob Roberts. The free events offer performers five minutes to dazzle the audience with their words, music, or comedy. The next Smack Dab will take place Wednesday, July 21 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

This month Magnet began hosting Faerie Heart Circles, which give men an opportunity to come together with other gay men to speak from the heart about sexuality, spirituality, identity, community, and emotions. And it is hosting Tina's Cafe, produced by Tweaker.org, a monthly social for queer men in San Francisco who are tackling crystal use.

Everything at Magnet is free though donations are requested. In its first year, Gibson said the center has raised nearly \$15,000 in donations alone. For those who have given more than \$100, Magnet is hosting a private reception to thank them.

Magnet opened its doors through a grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb, which the pharmaceutical giant gave to the city several years ago. Gibson said the center is set to receive its final installment of \$135,000 this summer. The city's STD control branch raised its funding to Magnet this year to \$172,000 from \$98,000.

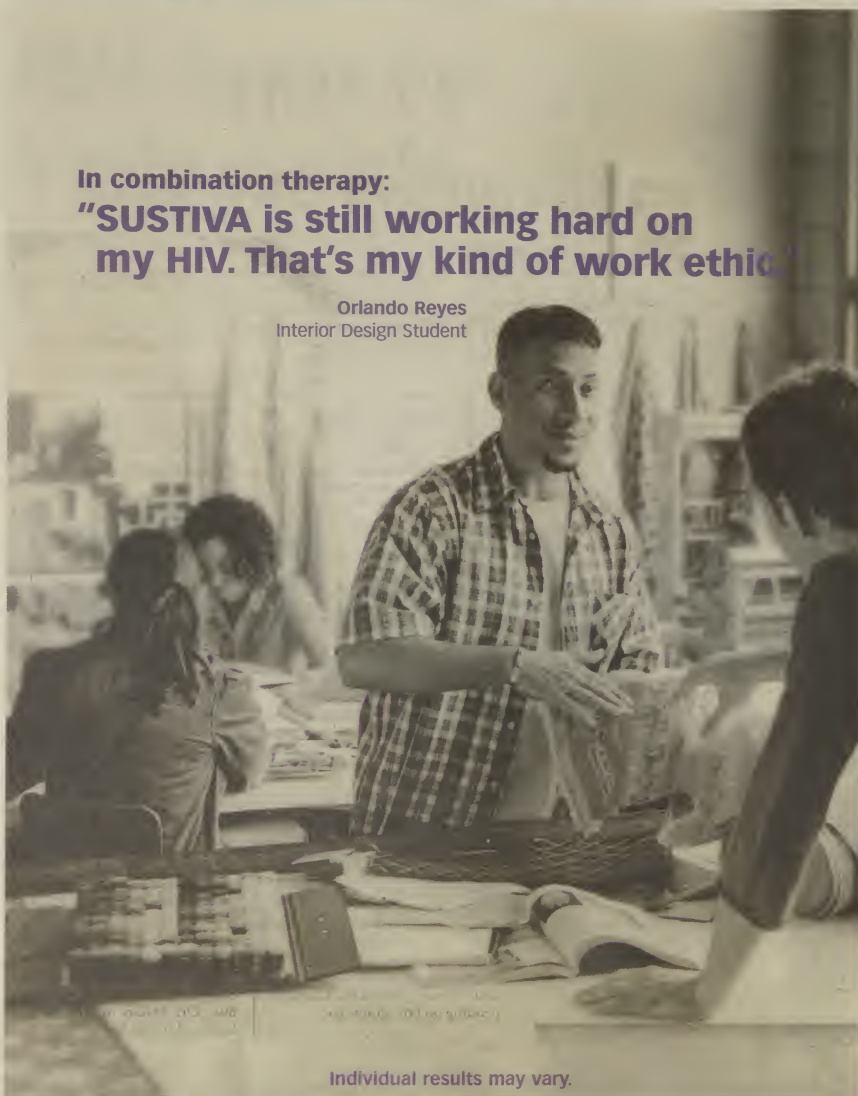
The center will be a beneficiary in this year's AIDS Walk, where it has its own contingent registered, and won a \$10,000 grant from GlaxoSmithKline. Magnet is also applying to be a beneficiary at next year's Academy of Friends fundraiser.

Since Magnet refuses to accept funding from the federal govern-

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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

SUSTIVA should not be taken with Hismanal® (astemizole), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot derivatives. Tell your doctor about any medications or herbal products (particularly St. John's wort) that you are taking.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams. These feelings tend to go away after taking the medication for a few weeks. A small number of patients have reported severe depression, strange thoughts, or

angry behavior. There have been a few reports of suicide but it is not known if SUSTIVA (efavirenz) was the cause. Rash is another common side effect. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. If you or your child develop a rash, call your doctor right away.

Women should not become pregnant or breastfeed while taking SUSTIVA.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.

You should take SUSTIVA on an empty stomach, preferably at bedtime. Taking SUSTIVA with food increases the amount of medicine in your body, which may increase the frequency of side effects. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.



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Please see important information about SUSTIVA on the next page.

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tablets

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PATIENT INFORMATION

REYATAZ™ (RAY-ah-taz)

(generic name = atazanavir sulfate)

Capsules

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate). Read the section "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?"

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is REYATAZ?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4 (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take REYATAZ?

Do not take REYATAZ if you:

- are taking certain medicines. (See "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?") Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients. The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ? Tell your healthcare provider:

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if REYATAZ can harm your unborn baby. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- If you are breast-feeding. You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- If you have diabetes. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- If you have hemophilia. See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- About all the medicines you take including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?" and "Who should not take REYATAZ?" Some medicines can cause serious side effects if you also take REYATAZ.

How should I take REYATAZ?

- Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you. Your dose will depend on your liver function and on the other anti-HIV medicines that you are taking. REYATAZ is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. If you are taking REYATAZ with SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) or with VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), you should also be taking NORVIR® (ritonavir).

R₂ ONLY

- Always take REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate) with food (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole. Do not open the capsules. Try to take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- If you are taking antacids or Videx® (didanosine) Chewable/Dispersible Buffered Tablets, take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider. It is important to stay under a healthcare provider's care while taking REYATAZ.
- When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- If you miss a dose of REYATAZ, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ, call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

Can children take REYATAZ?

REYATAZ has not been fully studied in children under 16 years of age. REYATAZ should not be used in babies under the age of 3 months.

What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is not complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

REYATAZ can cause the following side effects:

- yellowing of the skin or eyes. These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Call your healthcare provider if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow. Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, it is important to tell your healthcare provider promptly if they occur.
- a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change). Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- if you have liver disease including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.
- a serious condition called lactic acidosis syndrome (a severe buildup of an acid in the blood that sometimes causes death). Some people who have taken REYATAZ with anti-HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues have developed lactic acidosis syndrome. Lactic acidosis syndrome has happened more in people who are female or obese (very overweight). Lactic acidosis syndrome is a medical emergency and must be treated in the hospital. Call your healthcare provider right away and do not continue to take REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines unless instructed to by your healthcare provider if you get any of the following signs of lactic acidosis syndrome:
 - You have persistent nausea, vomiting, or unusual or unexpected stomach discomfort.
 - You feel very weak and tired.
 - You have trouble breathing.
 - You have weakness, especially in your arms and legs.
- changes in body fat. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; rash; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; increased cough; dizziness; trouble sleeping; pain; tiredness; back pain; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and joint pain.

What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, Methergine®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- Halcion® (triazolam, used for insomnia).
- Versed® (midazolam, used for sedation).
- Orap® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- Propulsid® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because of possible serious side effects:

- Camptosar® (irinotecan, used for cancer).

- Vasco® (bepridil, used for high blood pressure).
- Crixivan® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and Crixivan sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate) because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood. This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- "Proton-pump inhibitors" used for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AcipHex® (rabeprazole), Nexium® (esomeprazole), Prevacid® (lansoprazole), Prilosec® (omeprazole), or Protonix® (pantoprazole).

The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely:

- Cialis® (tadalafil), Levitra® (vardenafil), or Viagra® (sildenafil). REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with Cialis, Levitra, or Viagra. Do not use Cialis, Levitra, or Viagra while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- Lipitor® (atorvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.
- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: Cordarone® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others).
- Coumadin® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as Elavil® (amitriptyline), Norpramin® (desipramine), Sinequan® (doxepin), Surmontil® (trimipramine), Tofranil® (imipramine), or Vivactil® (nortriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: Sandimmune® or Neoral® (cyclosporine), Rapamune® (sirolimus), or Prograf® (tacrolimus).

The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- Fortovase®, Invirase® (saquinavir).
- Norvir® (ritonavir).
- Sustiva® (efavirenz).
- Videx® (didanosine) or antacids.
- Viread® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate).
- Mycobutin® (rifabutin).
- Calcium channel blockers such as Cardizem® or Tiazac® (diltiazem), Covera-HS® or Isonipin SR® (verapamil) and others.
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin).
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill").
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as Axid® (nizatidine), Pepcid AC® (famotidine), Tagamet® (cimetidine), or Zantac® (ranitidine).

Remember:

1. Know all the medicines you take.
2. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.
3. Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.

How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do not store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Throw away REYATAZ when it is outdated or no longer needed by flushing it down the toilet or pouring it down the sink.

General information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.

This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember, no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-426-7644.


What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

Active ingredient: atazanavir sulfate

Inactive ingredients: Crospovidone, lactose monohydrate (milk sugar), magnesium stearate, gelatin, FD&C Blue #2, and titanium dioxide.

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This Patient Information Leaflet has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

 Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Princeton, NJ 08543 USA

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FMA heads for a vote of sorts

by Bob Roehr

The Federal Marriage Amendment will come up for debate in the Senate and a vote – sort of – during the week of July 12. Both Republicans and Democrats are maneuvering so as to spin the procedures and the resulting vote to their advantage. It is not clear that either party or their community allies have the best interests of the gay community at the center of those maneuvers.

The way it looks like things will play out is that Republicans will offer the FMA and open debate on July 13. Democrats will denounce the FMA as distracting from business that the Senate should be addressing and will offer pet legislation as amendments that they haven't been able to get through otherwise, such as an increase in the minimum wage. Those additions will be voted up or down.

The following day there is likely to be a vote on cloture – the procedure to cut off debate, prevent consideration of further amendments, and vote for real on the FMA. That requires 60 votes. The cloture vote is likely to be essentially along party lines, and since Republicans have such a slim margin of control in the Senate, it will fail. And the FMA is likely to disappear from the Senate for the remainder of this session of Congress.

These political gymnastics will allow the Republican leadership to preserve a semblance of unity when in fact they likely would lose a number of their senators who oppose tinkering with the Constitution.

Social conservatives will spin it as a vote against traditional marriage by Democrats.

And shaky Democrats locked in tough re-election campaigns will be able to tell the gay community that they defended its honor, even while telling folks back home, "Hey I think that marriage is between a man and a woman."

The gay community will at least gain a respite from having to deal with the FMA, and groups like the Human Rights Campaign can laud their Democratic allies for a procedural vote that avoided putting them on the spot with the tough question of amending the Constitution.

What is lost is the opportunity

to demonstrate just how far short of the two-thirds majority the FMA really is from passage. Some head counts have suggested that a true vote on it might even fall short of 50 votes.

In discussing the scenario with reporters from the gay press Tuesday, July 6, Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign, said, "We are casting this – as are our enemies – that this is absolutely a vote on the FMA, this is not a procedural vote, this is a substantive vote."

Christopher Labonte, HRC's legislative director, said, "Obviously the Democrats don't want this to come up to a vote and will filibuster" on the FMA. Deputy political director Barbara Menard explained, "The Democrats feel that the Congress should be focused on other issues. [The cloture vote for Republicans] is as much about cutting off debate and forcing a vote as it is about cutting off non-germane amendments."

Senator John Kerry (D-Massachusetts) has missed a large portion of Senate votes as he has campaigned for the presidency. When asked whether Kerry will be present to vote on this measure, Jacques strongly asserted, "He will be there."

"It isn't just about narrowly defeating this measure, it's about winning soundly, sending a clear message to the House and to the states [considering state constitutional amendments] that discrimination is wrong."

Jacques wants the November election results to be seen as, "President Bush and other leaders played the gay card as aggressively as they could and it failed; it blew up in their face."

"It is unconscionable even to have a vote on such a homophobic piece of legislation, it shouldn't even come up on the floor of the Senate," Michael Bauer, a gay Democratic consultant and fundraiser based in Chicago. "I'd rather see the thing filibustered" than voted on.

"Tom Daschle has told me that he will lead the Democratic Caucus in turning this down," Bauer said.

There had been rumors that Daschle (South Dakota), the Senate minority leader who's locked in a tight re-election campaign, might actually vote for the FMA,



HRC President Cheryl Jacques

and others might follow.

As reported last week, the U.S. Conference of Mayors ducked taking a position on the FMA. The mayors of Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco had cosponsored a resolution opposing the measure and it breezed through the Criminal and Social Justice Committee with unanimous consent.

But the full body balked on June 28, voting 46 to 44 to table the motion. Observers said they just didn't want to deal with the issue when many are heading into a re-election campaign. However, it also demonstrated that attempts to ban gay marriage do not have the supermajority necessary to amend the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the man who is perhaps the most popular Republican in the nation, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, said, "I don't care one way or the other," when it comes to gay people getting married.

The Catholic Church went on record as supporting the FMA and urged its adherents to lobby for its passage. Bishop Wilton Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, took that step in a June 25 letter to his fellow bishops and a statement released to the press.

The Southern Baptist Convention also has endorsed the FMA, while 26 other religious denominations have gone on record as opposing it.

Social conservatives allied with James Dobson and Focus on the Family are organizing "Marriage Protection Sunday" on July 11 to stir up lobbying pressure from the pulpit in favor of the amendment.

Those efforts to date, including an expensive satellite hookup to rally churchgoers and print advertising in key Senate races, have generated surprisingly little response from the grassroots. The political newspaper *The Hill* quoted Daschle spokesman Dan Pfeiffer as saying, "We've heard from almost no one" on this issue. ▼

DeChavez in which he made it clear that he wanted to meet DeChavez for sex.

Graves told jurors that Miquez deserves nothing less than a first-degree murder conviction.

Public defense attorney Laurie Mont told jurors that Miquez's actions were not deliberate or planned but were committed in a moment of fury and rage. She insisted there wasn't sufficient evidence to justify a murder conviction. Mont reminded jurors that a very high standard of proof is required before anyone can be convicted of a crime.

Mont suggested that manslaughter, not murder, is the more appropriate charge because the killing was committed in the heat of passion.

Mont went out of her way to tell jurors of her personal support for gay rights, including her support of gay marriage. She said that

homophobia in society – and in Miquez's peer group – ultimately played a major part in the killing. She added that he had no gay role models, was unsophisticated, and had been described by a doctor at Kaiser and others as being "slow." The defense attorney told jurors that her client suffered from a history of paranoia.

At the time of the killing, she said he was having a lot of financial problems, with a girlfriend and two small children to support, and suffering from "sexual conflict."

"His world is falling apart," Mont said. "He's a walking time bomb. He's a recipe for disaster."

Mont said that when Miquez attacked DeChavez, he believed he was about to be raped. She said Miquez also felt humiliated because he couldn't achieve an erection and that DeChavez continued to pressure him into having more sexual activity. ▼

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Internet murder

◀ page 3

agnosis was that Miquez suffered from "general anxiety disorder," a common psychological condition and no excuse for murder. Graves added that Franklin purposely downplayed Miquez's history of "beating up" his friends.

According to a transcript of the chat between Miquez and DeChavez, both 22 at the time of the killing, the men had met at least once before and had planned to meet another time but DeChavez never showed up. When first questioned by police, Miquez insisted that he went to DeChavez's house in July 2001 to help him move and that DeChavez initiated sex but he wasn't interested. He was unaware at that time that police had a copy of his Internet chat with

Kamala Harris

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board, said Harris. And while she has not done the demographics and thus does not know how many of the 105 attorneys on staff are LGBT, Harris did say that she will take an active role in recruiting and keeping such staff.

"I'm sensitive to it as an issue, and it's important to me to make sure this office reflects the communities that are impacted by the work we do," said Harris. "It's also important to me to continuously have people representing those people who are under-represented. A lot of the work I've been

doing and will always do is outreach. A lot of communities, by circumstance or history of prejudice against them, don't trust law enforcement. And whenever you have communities of people that are isolated and also don't trust law enforcement, you have victimization that is going without consequence."

Of Harris's executive staff, one of her three top-level assistants is LGBT: openly lesbian Knutzen, who manages what Harris considers to be critical to a successful DA's office: the office itself.

Knutzen has used her considerable technological skills to overhaul the department's organizational system, or lack thereof; upon

arrival, two-thirds of the attorneys did not have e-mail, many did not have phones, and the majority of the office computers were from 1998. These are basics on which Knutzen has refused to compromise, and she has been able to tackle most of the problems, while awaiting future budget allocations. And Knutzen's achievements, said Harris, have brought not just efficiency, but justice.

"If I had to point to one person who was singularly most important to this new administration, and to the work and the success we have been able to accomplish so far, it's Martha," said Harris, noting that the details of how to make a DA's office professional may induce yawns, but they are essential. "It's about paying attention to the fact that lawyers don't have computers or telephones or e-mail, that there are boxes upon boxes of files sitting in the hallways of this office, and that each one of those files represents a person who might go to jail or a victim whose voice needs to be heard in the system."

Upon taking office, said Harris, there were 74 backlogged homicide cases, some of which were four years old. Unresolved cases, she noted, indicate delayed justice as well as bad economics: suspects awaiting trial in county jail cost the city \$30,000 per year.

Yet in just six months, with the help of the Valerie McGuire, the newly appointed head of the homicide division, 30 percent of those cases have been prosecuted. As a number, said Harris, "it's as many cases as they prosecuted all of last year."

Harris has also thrown her energy into drug court — recently dismissing charges for dozens of

defendants who completed treatment programs — and community courts, which operate upon a "village elders" concept and handle non-violent misdemeanors in their neighborhoods. Her efforts to stop drug and weapon trafficking, she said, will remain focused on the suppliers.

Prosecuting hate crimes will also be a priority for her office, she said. In May, she vocally objected to Judge Kay Tsenin's leniency with defendant Jack Broughton, who in February pleaded guilty to hate crime assault for beating two women outside the San Francisco Drag King contest in 2002. Tsenin sentenced him to one year of house arrest despite the violent felony conviction.

While Harris said her office has not yet encountered any type of "gay panic" defense, she is always aware of the need to combat ignorance.

Across the bay, a Hayward jury in the trial against the three men accused of killing East Bay transgender teenager Gwen Araujo could not agree to convict the defendants of murder, resulting in a mistrial. Although praised for its dedication to the case, the Alameda County District Attorney's office also was the target of criticism by activists and Araujo's family, who believed that the prosecution should have done more to educate the jury about transgender lives and identities. A gay panic defense was used in this case to paint Araujo as a man in disguise who had betrayed the defendants and "tricked" them into having homosexual sex, and while the tactic did not secure an acquittal, it did at least convince the jury that the killing was emotionally driven enough to rule out premeditated, first-degree murder.

Harris said she knows and respects the work of the prosecutor in that case, Alameda County Deputy District Attorney Chris Lamiero. She did not follow the case closely enough to make a judgment about how it was prosecuted, but in general, she said, educating a jury on unfamiliar issues is a good rule of thumb.

"Think about the evolution around of the law around crime, and syndromes, like 'battered women's syndrome' ... it was a battle to get courts and judges to accept evidence of the battered women's syndrome. Why was it important for a jury to hear evidence of battered women's syn-

drome? So that they could put in context the statements or demeanor of a victim," said Harris. "It is important to educate jurors, and in criminal cases, it can be very important and relevant when we're asking the jury to interpret the conduct of people."

Controversy

There have been some inevitable controversies and conflicts that come with political office, but Harris's accomplishments and track record seem to indicate that she is right on target with her goals for her office and the city.

"I personally had my own doubts," said Michael Goldstein, president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, which endorsed her opponent Hallinan in the election. Goldstein said that Harris has proven herself to him and his club, with her positions on medical marijuana, free speech for activists, and recently, the death penalty, where she has been "a stand-up kind of woman."

In April, Officer Isaac Espinoza, 29, was shot to death in the Bayview neighborhood as he was getting out of his car. Harris received every law enforcement and public safety endorsement in the DA's race during her campaign and was clearly opposed to the death penalty, but when she did not seek it against Espinoza's alleged killer David Hill, 21, those groups — including representatives from the Pride Alliance, the LGBT officers association — were on television as Police Officer Association President Gary Delagnes publicly condemned her and asked state Attorney General Bill Lockyer to take over prosecution of the case. Scott Hoey-Custock of the Pride Alliance did not have a comment for this story.

Lockyer refused to step in, noting that Harris analyzed the evidence of the case before making her decision. And most San Franciscans backed Harris's decision; a recent poll had 70 percent of voters supporting her firm stance.

"It's been interesting," said Harris, noting that a number of people have approached her to applaud her consistency on the matter even while firmly disagreeing with her anti-death penalty stance.

Tensions between her office and police officers have "dissipated," said Harris, and even when they were running high, she said, they never interfered with the day-


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16 QUEER MOVIE NIGHT - BURLESK KING Friday, July 16, 7pm @ Stop AIDS Main Office, 2128 15th St. This film from the Philippines follows the young protagonist as he comes out to his family all the while trying to make a living in the steamy world of go-go dancing in tropical Manila. Hot, hot, hot!

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AIDS Walk

◀ page 2

nizations provide services such as health care for low-income clients, needle exchange, employment counseling, youth outreach programs, legal assistance, and culturally appropriate HIV-prevention efforts in communities of color, according to a statement. Grant distribution is dependent on a lot of factors, said Horizons Foundation's Doughty, including client numbers, programs offered, need, organizational performance, and the capacity to carry out its programs. The full list of awardees can be found at www.horizonsfoundation.org/grants/grantees/2004/.

Unlike last year's \$10,000 cap on grants, there will be no official limit set this year, although the average of all awards is roughly \$10,000, and the most frequent levels of award fall into the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. Last year, some organizations such as Continuum reportedly received as little as \$2,500. Horizons is not releasing how much each organization has been awarded this year until it can

be sure that AIDS Walk 2004 fulfills its projections.

"If things fall perilously short the amount will be adjusted," said Doughty. "That's why it's important we get out there and walk."

Barring something drastic, however, Horizons is prepared to celebrate this grant cycle.

"In this time of unprecedented cuts in government HIV/AIDS funding, Horizons is especially honored to bring much-needed resources to these outstanding organizations," said Doughty. "Events like the AIDS Walk and AIDS Marathon are more important than ever before—unfortunately, the need for services doesn't decline just because government funding is slashed."

Next Sunday's AIDS Walk features tens of thousands of walkers in Golden Gate Park for a 10K event beginning and ending in Sharon Meadow. Individuals, friends, families, organizations, and coworkers will participate by securing sponsorships to raise money for necessary HIV/AIDS services. People can still sign up to participate. More information on the walk is available at www.aidswalk.net. ▼

Center announces challenge grant

by Matthew S. Bajko

Former Ambassador James Hormel, the first openly gay man to serve in such a role, has given a "Pride challenge" grant to the LGBT Community Center, agreeing to match community donations up to \$50,000 made between now and October 1.

Hormel will match any donation of \$35 up to \$2,500 in order to boost individual giving to the center. The money will be earmarked for the center's operational expenses.

The \$100,000 expected from the challenge grant is in addition to \$350,000 the center has raised in the last four months from individuals and corporate grants. With the additional support, the center has increased its revenue from last year by 75 percent.

"The recent increased support



LGBT Community Center Executive Director Thom Lynch, center, with Supervisor Bevan Duffy and Al Baum, seated, and other donors at Tuesday's reception.

from foundations and corporations is a testament to how well the center continues to serve the

needs of the LGBT community," said Executive Director Thom Lynch, whom the board hired a

year ago. "Our hope is now to encourage individuals to step up to the plate with their own support."

The center's annual budget is \$2.1 million, of which 27 percent comes from individuals, 25 percent from foundations; 19 percent from the government; 14 percent from revenue; 8 percent from special events, and 7 percent from corporations. Since he was hired, Lynch has repositioned the center financially, expanded programs, increased staffing and seen the opening last month of the Three

Dollar Bill Cafe.

"The community center is back. We are strong and ready to do the work we are here to do for the community," Lynch said at a reception Tuesday, July 6 after announcing the challenge grant. "We are having a terrific year but the challenge is not over. We still need your help."

In recent months, the Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund, the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, Jody Cole, the San Francisco Founda-

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Explore study

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searchers did point to one "statistically significant" finding among the men who received the intensive counseling. The study found a 20.5 percent decrease in high-risk behavior among this group over the study's four years.

"That is important to point out. It did show a reduction in the highest risk sexual behaviors. If the trial had gone on longer, and there was more people, it may have shown a higher reduction in HIV rates," said Colfax.

When researchers constructed the study in 1999, which involved 4,295 uninfected MSM at high risk for HIV infection in six major U.S. cities, including 735 in San Francisco, they hoped that intensive one-on-one counseling that addressed substance use, self-esteem, and negotiating safe sex would keep more men negative than standard counseling and testing.

The men in the intervention group received 10 intensive one-on-one counseling sessions in the initial four to six months of the study. The sessions were followed by client-centered maintenance sessions at three-month intervals throughout the three to four years of follow-up with the men. Participants in the control group received standard voluntary counseling and testing every six months.

According to Mayer, researchers had hoped to see at least a 35 percent difference in the number of men contracting HIV between the two groups. Instead, there was only a 15 percent benefit between the two groups, said Mayer.

"As the data came out, one piece of bad news for the study was the overall rate of new infections was 2.1 percent per year. Out of every 100 men in the study, two became infected annually," said Mayer. "That was disappointing. We thought the rate would be lower than that. The hope was it would be as low as 1.5 percent per year on an annualized basis."

In San Francisco, the HIV infection rate per year averaged to 2.5 percent, said Colfax. The rate is consistent with other studies done in San Francisco that have higher HIV incidence than the national average, he said.

"It is due to the possibility of increased risk behavior among our group than other groups and a higher prevalence of HIV in San

Francisco than other cities," explained Colfax.

The researchers did note that the study's retention rate of 87 percent – 85 percent in the intervention group and 89 percent in the control group – is an unparalleled success for a study of this size.

"Most people said they enjoyed the study and the retention rate was great in the study. It was a very long study and most people were retained in the study," said Colfax.

One reason for the disappointing results of the study, noted researchers, is that participants in both arms received considerable attention over the course of the study to maintain involvement and retention. The quality of the HIV counseling and testing given to the control arm participants, said the researchers, may have been better than the quality that is typically given in anonymous testing and counseling services.

"It wasn't like compared to a true placebo group of people coming in; not saying anything to them would have been unethical," said Mayer.

The study's lackluster results, said Colfax, "certainly does not indicate HIV counseling is not effective, just that compared to the high standard of counseling the intervention did not seem to have a greater statistical effect. Also it was a very high standard of care we were comparing the intervention to."

Mining data

Since the study is the largest of its kind to look at the sexual behaviors of gay men, the researchers believe it will still offer some benefits to those groups and health officials working in HIV prevention. They are mining the data to see what the effect of depression is on risk behaviors, how substance use patterns affect gay men's sexual choices, and a multitude of other factors.

"While the primary HIV infection results wasn't significant, the study has a wealth of information. We are going to learn huge amounts," said Colfax. "This is the biggest cohort of high risk MSM we have with the highest number of data points."

The researchers will also be looking at whether different subgroups of study participants benefited more than their peers, and if that information can help health officials better tailor their prevention efforts.

"We will be looking to see if

there are pieces of the intervention people may want to adopt or to add to existing programs," said Mayer. "One big question, since overall the study had 4,295 men in it, is if some groups of men got more benefit from Explore than others. Those kinds of analyses are being done as we speak. Over the next few months we will have those results." ▼

For more information about the Explore study, check www.explorestudy.org or www.sfaidresearch.org.

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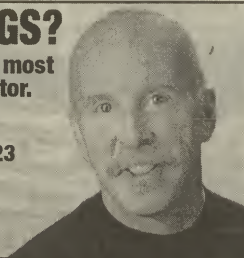
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Kerry-Edwards

◀ page 1

the number of votes Edwards got in the 8th Congressional District in the California primary), he would fully support the Democratic ticket. "But it certainly makes it more exciting," he added, referring to Edwards now being part of the ticket.

"I think he appeals to independents and he's dynamic," Rothschild said. "I think the American people can relate to him."

State Board of Equalization Chairwoman Carole Migden, another backer of Edwards during the primaries, was very pleased.

"It's an exciting day," she told the B.A.R. "Edwards is a young man with a future. He's going to excite everyone in the country."

Migden said that Kerry exercised a "great deal of maturity and self-confidence" in selecting Edwards.

Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), an early Kerry supporter, also praised the decision.

"I think it's a strong choice," Leno told the B.A.R. "He's showed that he clearly has great popular appeal and communicates well as a champion of the underdog."

Opposes gay marriage

Like Kerry, Edwards does not support same-sex marriage but opposes the Federal Marriage Amendment that is set for a vote in the Senate next week. Also like Kerry, Edwards voted both for the Iraq War and the Patriot Act. Those facts were not lost on members of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club.

"It remains to be seen if Edwards will strengthen the Democratic ticket," Milk Club President Michael Goldstein said in an e-mail. "The ticket would be strengthened if Kerry-Edwards came out against the war in Iraq and in favor of marriage equality. That said, a primary goal of the Milk Club is the defeat of George Bush."

In fact, the Bush-Cheney campaign wasted no time in criticizing Edwards's selection, saying that he was Kerry's second choice after attempting to get Arizona

Senator John McCain (R) to run as part of a bipartisan ticket.

Rothschild, however, pointed out that McCain had praise for Edwards's book, *Four Trials*, which recounts some of Edwards's successful court cases.

"There's a quote from McCain on the back of the book," Rothschild said.

Laura Spanjian, co-chair of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, said Edwards was a "great choice to be Kerry's running mate."

But she, too, acknowledged Edwards's opposition to same-sex marriage. "Though I am unhappy with his views on gay marriage, I know a Kerry-Edwards administration will be open to talking, listening, and eventually supporting gay marriage," Spanjian said. "And we know that's 110 percent more than Bush and Cheney would ever do."

Good on (most) gay issues

His record on gay issues is strongly supportive, as a cosponsor of the hate crimes legislation, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, and AIDS legislation. However, he has seldom exercised leadership on those issues, perhaps due to his lack of seniority in the Senate and the willingness of others to take the lead.

"The selection of Senator Edwards solidifies the most pro-gay, pro-family ticket in the history of presidential politics," said Dave Noble, executive director of National Stonewall Democrats. It "greatly contrasts with a Republican ticket that insists on running a campaign that demeans our families and smears our community."

Cheryl Jacques, president of the Human Rights Campaign, which has endorsed Kerry, called Edwards "steadfast in his support of our community." She cited his voting record and his appearance as the keynote speaker at a HRC fundraising dinner in Atlanta.

Last July, however, HRC sponsored a presidential forum in Washington that drew seven of the nine Democratic candidates and coverage on C-SPAN. The two who did not participate were perceived to be the most conservative: Edwards and Florida Senator Bob Graham.

Jacques downplayed Edwards's absence and said that Edwards had a scheduling conflict; he was meeting with the Congressional Black Caucus in a southern state. "As a former officeholder myself, I can tell you that it happens all the time," said Jacques, a former Massachusetts state legislator.

HRC also noted that Edwards opposes "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the military's antigay policy, and in 2002 was critical when several Arabic language specialists were discharged under the policy.

"It's a good choice," said Kenneth Sherrill, a professor of political science at Hunter College in New York City. "It offers a sharp contrast to Cheney" in terms of age and vitality.

Vice President Dick Cheney is 63 and has had several heart attacks, though none recently. It was reported this week, however, that Cheney fired his doctor after it was learned the physician was undergoing treatment for addiction to prescription medication.

"Edwards was a stupendous candidate in the primaries" and that is the best training ground for running in a national campaign, Sherrill said. His training as a trial lawyer will make Edwards "an effective attack dog," a role traditionally played by the vice presidential candidate.

Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, also praised the selection.

"John Kerry and John Edwards make up the most gay-supportive national ticket in American history," Foreman said. "But, in order for them to win the enthusiastic support of the gay community, a critical part of their base, they will have to take a strong and bold stand on supporting our civil rights."

"I think he is a terrific choice," said Chicago political consultant Michael Bauer, who helped with Edwards's primary campaign. "He is dynamic, articulate, incredibly bright, and he will certainly energize the Democratic base."

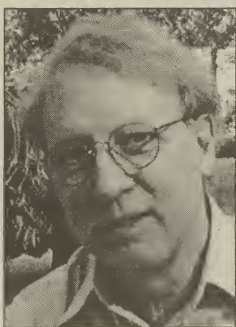
Bauer believes the selection will put much of the South into play and at the very least will force the Bush campaign to devote more resources to that region. ▼

AIDS confab

◀ page 1

ministration negotiates a new Thai bilateral free trade agreement similar to those recently agreed to by Chile and Singapore. If the agreement spares Thailand itself, it could seriously damage Thai efforts to produce generic drugs in the Congo. Thai efforts to produce generics were previously stalled for years by Bristol-Myers Squibb lawsuits. Only last December did Thailand begin rolling out ARVs to 50,000 people, seven years after Brazil began its successful program.

The Bush administration's presence will be an unprecedented publicity extravaganza featuring the premiere of the government-funded documentary, *Stepping Up*, about Bush's AIDS efforts in Africa. The administration's press release bills the film as "the flipside of *Fahrenheit 9/11*: As Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* scalds American policies and leadership in its opening weekend in theaters across America, a new documentary is set to premiere which casts a light on a corner of the world where massive and unprecedented American intervention is being welcomed with open arms by the world." There is no mention that only \$350 million of the promised \$2.4 billion has been



John James of AIDS Treatment News

spent or that Democratic plans would treat eight times as many people by purchasing generic ARVs and doubling the funding.

The U.S. scientific community will not be as well represented at the conference, according to AIDS Treatment News editor John James.

"Unfortunately, the Bush administration cut the number of U.S. scientists who can attend, announcing in March that the U.S. National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be allowed to send only 20 scientists each - compared to 236 sent to the last international conference two years ago in

Barcelona," James said.

The U.S. reduced its funding for the conference from \$3.6 million to less than half a million dollars. Many programs at Bangkok had to be reorganized or canceled, as the scientists will not be there to present their information. James said that the cuts reflect right-wing attacks. In May, five Republicans in Congress complained that the 2002 Barcelona meeting had 777 presentations that mentioned condoms, compared to 16 for "faithfulness or fidelity" and 74 for "abstinence," James noted.

On June 16 the CDC issued the Bush administration's new AIDS sex education prevention guidelines, which must include information on the "lack of effectiveness of condom use." The new guidelines also require teaching abstinence in all sex education prevention courses. ▼

Readers can receive free daily conference e-mail updates from the Kaiser Family Foundation. Sign up at www.kff.org/AIDS2004. AIDS Treatment News is available for free at www.aidsnews.org. Also, people can get free announcements and links for articles when they are added, by sending a blank e-mail to subscribe@aidsnews.org.

OBITUARIES

G40+ Club founder Jordan Lee dies

by Cynthia Laird

Jordan Lee, the founder of San Francisco's G40+ Club for older gay men, died Sunday, June 20 after collapsing at the corner of Market and Noe streets. He was 78.

Arthur Hurwith, treasurer of the club, now called the San Francisco Prime Timers, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Mr. Lee was walking down the street at about 5 p.m. when he collapsed. The paramedics were called, but Mr. Lee was pronounced dead at the scene. The cause of death was arteriosclerosis cardiovascular disease, or hardening of the arteries.

"We've known him for quite a number of years," Hurwith said, referring to his partner, Warren van Eck, the current Prime Timer president. "He had so much experience."

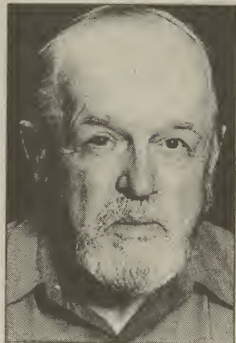
Hurwith said Mr. Lee would be missed.

"Oh and how," Hurwith said, adding that he and van Eck often helped Mr. Hurwith with various medical appointments and other tasks.

"When he wanted another cat, we took him down to the SPCA to get a cat," Hurwith recalled.

Mr. Lee was born in Vermont on March 25, 1926. Information on his early life was not immediately available. After moving to San Francisco, Mr. Lee worked at the San Francisco Public Library until his retirement.

An early member of the Mattachine Society, Mr. Lee in the



Jordan Lee

1950s published its newsletter and booked the club's speakers.

In August 1973, a gentleman offered his home as a meeting place, and 13 older gay men came together for what proved to be the founding of the G40+ Club.

"After Willie Brown [then a state legislator] helped pass the law legalizing sex between consenting adults in 1974, the membership shot up," Mr. Lee once said. He also booked speakers for the fledgling G40+ Club, including the late Harvey Milk, Pat Bond, Kate Bornstein, the Reverend Robert Crome, and James Hormel.

Hurwith noted that many people likely remember Mr. Lee carrying the G40+ Club banner in the Pride Parade, which he did from 1975 to 1997, when his arthritis prevented him doing it any longer. Mr. Lee remained on the steering

committee of the G40+ Club until 2002, when his health no longer permitted him to continue.

After Mr. Lee's resignation, the club affiliated with Prime Timers Worldwide and changed its name.

Over the years, Mr. Lee received much community recognition. He was featured in *Quiet Fire: Memoirs of Older Gay Men* by Micah Lexier (1989). In May 1989 the former Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders project (now New Leaf: Services for Our Community) awarded him its Community Service Award; in 1997 he received the Pax et Bonum Award from Dignity San Francisco; and in June 2002 he received the Harry Hay Award at the Stop AIDS Project's Geezers Ball.

Hurwith said that Mr. Lee had a very dry sense of humor and greatly enjoyed "word-play," using words such as quiddity and scintillation so that many club members would read their newsletters with a dictionary in hand.

Mr. Jordan is survived by a sister who lives in Hawaii, and by several nieces and nephews, one of whom, Scott Hunter of Washington, D.C., will attend a memorial that will be held Saturday, July 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Thomas Starr King Room at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin Street at Geary in San Francisco.

In lieu of flowers, people are asked to make donations in Mr. Lee's name to the Arthritis Foundation, the American Civil Liberties Union, or the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. ▼

News in brief

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in numerous ways."

Tickets for the event range from \$20-\$50. To charge by phone, call (415) 392-4400. Tickets are also available online at www.cityboxoffice.com. For more information, call GAPA at (415) 282-4272.

GAPA, founded in 1988, works to promote the interests of gay and bisexual Asian and Pacific Islanders by creating awareness of a variety of issues.

New restaurant hosts benefits

Lime, the new restaurant and lounge opening at 2247 Market Street, is hosting two events next week, both of which will benefit New Leaf: Services for Our Community, according to owner Greg Bronstein.

The first is a dinner training Tuesday, July 13, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. held so that the restaurant staff can receive hands-on experience. People can order a sampling of Lime's small plate entrees and non-alcoholic drinks are included for a \$30 donation to New Leaf.

A grand opening cocktail event takes place the next night, Wednesday, July 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. Food and drinks will be available and a \$5 to \$10 donation to New Leaf will be accepted.

To RSVP, call Melissa White at (415) 255-0381 or e-mail mwhite@newleafservices.org.

Free smoking cessation program

San Franciscans who want to make a fresh start after a busy

month of LGBT Pride activities can sign up for free quit-smoking classes that start Wednesday, July 14 at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street. Facilitators trained by the American Lung Association and sponsored by the Coalition of Lavender Americans on Smoking and Health lead the classes, dubbed Last Drag.

"Every year come July, after intense partying associated with the Frameline film festival, the Dyke March, Pink Saturday, and the parade, people want to give their bodies a chance to recover and are motivated to make changes such as quitting smoking," said Bob Gordon, a CLASH board member.

Studies show that 75 percent of smokers want to quit, with over 60 percent making a quit attempt each year. LGBT smokers are motivated by many reasons, including saving money, and to enjoy healthier lives.

The upcoming classes will be held on Wednesdays, through August 18, from 7 to 9 p.m. To register visit www.lastdrag.org, e-mail info@lastdrag.org, or call (415) 339-STOP.

Bears to frolic in North Bay

If it's mid-July it must be time for bears and their admirers to celebrate, and that means the ninth annual Lazy Bear Weekend is just around the corner. The event kicks off Wednesday, July 14 and continues through Monday, July 19 at various resorts and establishments in Guerneville.

Producer Harry Lit of Castrobear Presents and organizers from the Sacramento Valley Bears expect thousands of men to come up to the Russian River area, where a jam-packed schedule in-

cludes pool parties, dances, entertainment, and other activities. Proceeds from Lazy Bear Weekend benefit several local organizations, including AIDS Emergency Fund and Breast Cancer Emergency Fund of San Francisco, AEF of Sonoma County, Food for Thought, the Positive Resource Center, and Under One Roof, to name just a few.

The primary fundraising tool of the weekend are "bear tags" which are available for \$75 and include discounts to events and drinks. The tags can be purchased at The Triple R, Fife's, and the Rainbow Cattle Company.

For more information on the festivities, see the official Lazy Bear Weekend guide now available throughout the Castro and South of Market area, or visit www.lazybearweekend.org.

HRC gala coming up

The Human Rights Campaign is hosting its annual San Francisco dinner gala event next Saturday, July 17 at Moscone West, 747 Howard Street. The VIP cocktail reception takes place from 5 to 6 p.m., with a general reception continuing until 7, when the dinner and a live auction will take place, followed by dancing.

This year's honorees are San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, Ilene Chaiken, producer of Showtime's *The L Word*, Assessor-Recorder Mabel Teng and City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Craig Zodikoff, and San Francisco Police Commissioner Theresa Sparks.

Tickets to the event start at \$195 per person, or \$125 for students with valid IDs. To order tickets, visit www.boxofficetickets.com or call 1-800-494-8497. ▼

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Chicagoin'

by Jim Provenzano

Gay Games VII registration is now open, and athletes and artists can register online for the event at www.GayGamesChicago.org.

Scheduled for July 15-22, 2006 in Chicago, the quadrennial sport and cultural festival promises to be a popular event, so early registration is highly recommended.

Crunching numbers and incorporating a thorough online process, participants can select specific events in a much improved system, possibly the most efficient registration process ever for such an event.

"The Gay Games VII online registration system is an extremely sophisticated system built by Gay Games VII and Federation of Gay Games sports, culture, technology and marketing volunteers working in a database environment created by Afficent, a Chicago-based firm that provides registration technology architecture to large international multi-sport events," said Jefferson McCarley, co-chair of the Gay Games VII Technology Committee.

In addition, dozens of volunteers put in hundreds of hours to

bring the registration system to the world in record-breaking time.

Chicago faced a short deadline for preparation after the Games were given to the U.S. city. This is, of course, after the previously reported breakdown of contract negotiations last November with Montreal. Originally set to sign contracts for the Games, Montreal officials instead refused to do so at the FGG annual meeting, and later unveiled their own plans for their own gay sports event, now called OutGames I. Early registration for that event, scheduled for July 29-August 5, 2006, is available online at www.montreal2006.org. But participants will have to complete their full registration at a later date.

This is part of the continued competition between GLBT sports events that has been considered by many to be both a new opportunity, but also a conflict for GLBT athletes around the world.

Chicago may have won this race, in that its registration is now ready.

"The online registration sys-

tem is designed to do much more than just 'reserve' a spot in a Gay Games VII sport with just basic contact information," said Tracy Baim, Gay Games VII co-vice president and co-chair of the technology committee.

"The system guides the athlete or artist through a series of questions that are critical to ensuring the proper placement of the participant in his or her sport or cultural program," said Baim. "It enhances the organizational and financial success of Gay Games VII through key demographic questions, and uses technology to emphasize the high priority the FGG and

Chicago organizers place on the health and safety of the athlete or artist."

God(ess) is in the details

The more thorough online guidelines will help Gay Games VII organizers schedule and prepare for events two years ahead of time. Specifics are many.

Swimmers are asked to identify the events in which they would like to compete and provide entry times, guiding tournament directors as they schedule swimming heats.

Softball players are asked to identify their competitive division, and, if female, whether they will be playing in fast pitch or slow pitch softball. Men aren't asked this question since there is no men's fast pitch softball – a testament to the sophistication of the online database.

Martial artists are asked to identify their experience – from beginners (white belts) on up to black belts – essential information to plan for a safe and inclusive martial arts competition.

Tennis players are asked to place themselves in a competitive level, whether they'll be playing singles or doubles, and are given hints on how to determine their competitive level with eight different countries' rating systems provided as examples.

In each sport where a senior division is provided, athletes are given the choice to compete as "seniors" or to compete in a division more suited to their experience level. Similar choices are offered to physically challenged athletes.

Team and partners/pairs competitions were incorporated into the database with the kind of flexibility desired by athletes and the organizations representing them. Individuals can register for a team or partner sport all by themselves

and request to be matched with a team or partner.

Teams can also register together, with team captains being provided confirmation IDs that, once shared with teammates, link the individuals together as a team for the Gay Games. Teams can be built with a small core of athletes registering early, adding players as confirmed availability is obtained. Examples of team sports include softball, rugby, and ice hockey. Examples of partner sports include tennis (doubles), diving (synchronized diving), and beach volleyball.

"The result of all this hard work," said Gene Dermody, federation board member and co-chair of the FGG registration advisory group, "is a complete registration system that has been tested and retested by FGG and Chicago sports experts for more than a month. The system has been built by experienced technologists, and has significant improvements gained from the collective experiences of the six previous Gay Games."

Sam Coady, Gay Games VII sports co-chair and co-chair of the registration team, said, "With still more than two years to go before the Gay Games VII Opening Ceremony at Soldier Field, this is the earliest that Gay Games registration has ever opened."

FGG co-Presidents Kathleen Webster and Roberto Mantaci will deliver their thanks in person as they and about a dozen other FGG delegates travel to Chicago July 8-13 for a strategic planning meeting and site visit.

Gay Games supporters and representatives will be holding promotional presentations this weekend in London, Cologne, Chicago, New York, and even Ljubljana (Slovenia).

Soccerific

The San Francisco Spikes will host the International Gay and Lesbian Football Association world championships August 1-7 in San Francisco at Golden Gate Park's Polo Fields. Don't just watch – sign up to volunteer. Hundreds of soccer players from the U.S., Canada, and Japan will be in town for this big tournament. Get a leg up at <http://www.sfsfikes.com/> and <http://www.sf2004.org/>.

Grecian formula

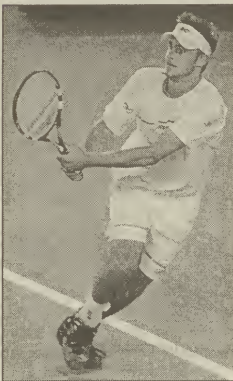
Oh, to be in Athens last weekend. As Greece won an amazing upset at the Euro 2004 world soc-

cer tournament in Portugal, hundreds of thousands of Greeks filled city streets, waving flags and celebrating. Giant TV screens were set up on beaches and in city squares.

With the 2004 Olympics only weeks away, and concerns over preparedness still making news, officials hope this will give the country an enthusiastic boost.

"We should tear down the walls, our boys are returning home as champions of Europe," the Athens daily *Ethnos* said in a banner headline of their victorious soccer team.

Hopefully, walls of homophobia will be torn down as well, and more gay and lesbian athletes will come out as the Olympics returns to the city of its birth. So far, only two known out athletes are scheduled to compete: tennis star Amelie Mauresmo of France, and Robert Costello, in equestrian events. Costello competed in the 2000 Olympics as well.



Andy Roddick

Head over heels

Cutie Andy Roddick, who has more than a few gay fans, almost won the Wimbledon tennis tournament, losing to Roger Federer of Switzerland in the final men's match. The event was a showcase for Federer, who defeated Roddick in four sets Sunday to claim his second Grand Slam title of the season.

Don't worry, Andy, we still love you. ▼

Got a summer sports event?

Email info at jim_prof@yahoo.com. Read previous articles at www.sportscomplex.org

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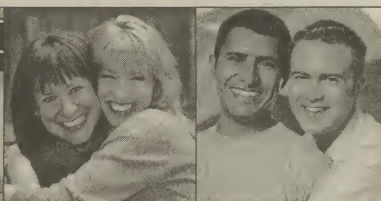


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ment due to restrictions placed on how it can spend such revenue, the health center is dependent on private and local funding. Gibson would like to see community support rise to \$45,000 or \$50,000 this year.

"Now that we are up and running my primary responsibility is fundraising," he said. "One of our goals is to create a sense of community ownership. It is good to see people come in for services, value them and realize they cost money and are willing to make a donation to support it." ▼

To celebrate its one-year birthday, Magnet is hosting a free party from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, July 9, at the Center, 4122 18th Street. On Saturday,

July 24 it will host a benefit called "Will Clark's 2nd Annual Bad Boys By The Bay – A Burlesque Show @ Studio Z," featuring hosts Michael Brandon and Trannyshack's Hekline, along with porn and drag performers: Andy Dill, Colt Man Diego de la Hoya, Jason Branch, John Truitt, Jon Galt, Marcus Iron, Michael Knight, Michael Soldier, Rik Jammer, Steven Richards, and Tony Scalia with Gina la Divina, Miss Trannyshack 2004 Fauxnique and Miss Trannyshack 2003 Suppositori Spelling.

The show will be from 2 to 7 p.m. at Studio Z, near the corner of 11th and Folsom streets. Tickets are \$60 advance and \$70 at the door with a hosted bar and light refreshments. For more information or tickets call (415) 581-1612, or check out www.badboyspoolparty.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

Our Man Friday

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cording to the *Times*.

In other election news, **Ralph Nader**, the 70-year-old egomaniac who is content on re-electing **George W. Bush** this year, suffered another political setback last week when a judge ruled that thousands of signatures were invalid and ordered him off the Arizona ballot in November. Nader's stumble in Arizona followed other recent blows to his drive for the presidential ballot across the country. The Green Party recently rejected Nader's bid for an endorsement that could have helped him get on the ballot in at least 22 states and the District of Columbia. It's time this guy got the message: stop taking GOP money to help the campaign, and give it up. Even his most ardent 2000 backers are now publicly saying, "A vote for Nader is a vote for Bush."

John Kerry's LGBT supporters want you to know that their Bay Area fundraising event - "Out Front for Kerry!" - has surpassed \$100,000 in pledges. The July 18 reception, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Berkley DoubleTree Hotel (200 Marina Boulevard, off University Avenue) looks like a very big event, with longtime LGBT personalities like Assemblyman **Mark Leno** (D-San Francisco), San Francisco's first lesbian married couple, **Del Martin** and **Phyllis Lyon**, former Clinton adviser **David Mixner**, and community supporters like Congresswoman **Barbara Lee** (D-Oakland) joining organizations such as the Alice Toklas and Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic clubs, the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, and the Silicon Valley LGBT Democratic Club. This will be the only official Bay Area LGBT Kerry event before the convention and many celebs (political and otherwise), good wine, good food, and great entertainment are assured. Let's all get behind this one. Tickets start at \$250 per person. For info please contact: **Betty Sullivan**, (415) 861-1637; **Nancy Carleton**, (510) 644-0172; **Jeff Anderson**, (415) 948-6365; or **Margie Adam**, (510) 527-8094 and I'll see you there on Sunday, July 18.

From Richmond, Virginia comes news that **Rick Ufford-Chase**, a peace activist who supports the inclusion of gays in the ministry, was elected last week to lead the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. for the next two years. **Ufford-Chase**, 40, and elder at the Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson, Arizona, is the first layperson to hold the position since 1999 and will preside over the denomi-

nation's 2.4 million members.

More good news for John Kerry: As former President **Bill Clinton** crisscrosses the country signing his best-selling memoir, *My Life*, he never fails to mention that he and wife Hillary are "strongly supporting" Kerry for president. Or, as Senator **Hillary Rodham Clinton** (D-New York) last week told *Newsweek*, "People are more and more remembering the positive aspects of the 1990s and it can only benefit John Kerry, who is talking about the same issues that elected my husband president."

And from the can't-win-'em-all department comes word that a gay federal prison inmate in Pennsylvania last week ended his attempt to force prison officials to let him send letters to his lover, who's in the same western Pennsylvania prison. Seems a federal judge has rejected the inmate's contention that his relationship amounted to a common law marriage, so the inmate decided not to challenge the ruling and withdrew his lawsuit. Sounds like another sound reason for legalizing same-sex marriage to me.

And while I agree with San Francisco Supervisor **Tom Ammiano** that "there will be an overwhelming vote in favor" of a ballot initiative that the ever-worldly Board of Supes has slapped on the November ballot calling on the federal government to withdraw all troops and end the occupation in Iraq, I somehow agree more strongly with Supervisor **Gerardo Sandoval** that the board shouldn't be spending its time on such silly measures, or as Sandoval put it: "It doesn't help us fix potholes or build housing."

And the snide remarks and whispers continue about **Susan Leal's** planned move to the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. A onetime Leal ally snapped this week: "Damn, just how much does Susan think she's worth - it's not like she doesn't already have a good paying job."

The aforementioned Gerardo Sandoval reportedly faces some tough opposition from both former Supervisor **Jose Medina** and City College board member **Anita Grier** in District 11 this November in his re-election bid.

Meanwhile, the political smart money is reportedly already on Supervisor **Aaron Peskin**, one of the board's hardest-working and committed members, easily keeping his District 3 seat, while challenger **Lillian Sing** takes out incumbent **Jake McGoldrick** in District 1. Other than that, I'm taking no bets on anyone other than the race in District 9, where Tom Ammiano wins big again.

And how was your week? ▼

Kamala Harris

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to-day work that officers and district attorneys had to do together. She has continued to work on trainings with officers, which have updated them on recent court rulings regarding evidence collection and suspects' rights, so that the city can build strong cases against defendants.

"We're working hard," said Harris of her first six months.

From a gay perspective but also a larger human perspective, the Milk Club's Goldstein said he can give Harris a thumbs-up so far.

"As president of the club and as an individual, I'm happy she is holding to much of what she campaigned on," he said. "She has truly showed her beliefs to match her actions, and for that, not only I, but the club, has applauded her." ▼

LGBT Center

◀ page 19

tion, and the Wells Fargo Foundation have all given \$50,000 to the center. The Horizons Foundation gave \$20,500, and both AT&T and Al Baum contributed \$10,000.

"Thom Lynch set an early goal of establishing the center as the focal point of San Francisco's en-

tire LGBT community," said Bill Del Monico, of Integrated Mortgage Company, which gave \$20,000. "In just one year, the center has successfully proven that it can become a comprehensive resource for many issues facing the community today."

For more information or to make a donation, call the center at (415) 865-5555 or visit www.sf-center.org. ▼

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LEGAL NOTICES

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Consultant - Property and Business Improvement Districts
Western Addition, San Francisco, California

The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency is seeking Statements of Qualifications from experienced consultants knowledgeable in the formation of property and business improvement districts. The Agency is interested in establishing one or more property and business improvement districts in the Western Addition Redevelopment Project Area A-2. Details follow:

Pre-submittal meeting for prospective consultants: 10:00 a.m., July 21, 2004, at the Fillmore Jazz District Promotions Office located at 1286 Fillmore St. in San Francisco.

Statements of Qualifications due: August 3, 2004.

For a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) contact:
Denise Blades, Development Specialist, at (415) 749-2438 or Denise.Blades@sfgov.org
San Francisco Redevelopment Agency
770 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

The RFQ is also available on the Agency's web site at www.sfgov.org/sfra.

VACANCY NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 54974, California Government Code, notice is hereby given of the following unscheduled vacancies. Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the City's web site: www.sfgov.org/bdsuprvr. Please Note: Depending upon the posting date, some vacancies may have already been filled. To determine if vacancies for this Board/Committee/Commission or Task Force are still available please call the Rules Committee Clerk at 554-5184.

SURPLUS PROPERTY CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Surplus Property Citizens' Advisory Committee consists of thirteen (13) members. Eight Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors: one member is the Chair of the Board of Supervisors Finance and Audit Committee or his or her designee; two members are appointed directly by the Mayor; one member is the Mayor's Budget Director or his or her designee; and one member is a representative from the Mayor's Office of Housing. The Committee shall review each Surplus Property Report and any applications for such Surplus or Underutilized Property submitted to the Executive Director under Section 23A.8. Based on such review and testimony from such public hearings as the Surplus Property Citizens' Advisory Committee may hold, by December 15th of each year, the Committee shall make written recommendations to the Board of Supervisors as listed in Administrative Code Sec. 23A.9.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION
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BROWN BAG LUNCH TALKS at 1660 Mission Street, Room 2001 (second floor), Thursdays, Noon to 1:30 P.M.

The Department welcomes you to attend a series of informal, general information talks presented at no charge to the public and City staff. Bring your lunch; coffee and other drinks will be provided.

July 15, 2004 Underground tanks and hazardous or contaminated soils and materials
Department of Building Inspection staff and Health Department

NOTE: Persons unable to attend are invited to mail their comments or questions, to request materials hand out, or to call and speak with department staff. Please contact Laurie Kornfield, Chief Building Inspector, Technical Services Division at (415) 558-6205 for further information.

STATEMENT FILE A-0276582-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blend Salon 555 Sutter St., Ste. 301 San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Luong-Ha, Tuyet Tina. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.

JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276608-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Millennium Painting 858 Filbert #1 San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Greg C. Dewarup. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-08-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.

JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276600-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Posh Bagel 495 Castro St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Ricky H. Ngo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.

JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276188-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: RAH Designs 3828 17th St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Robert A. Hendricks. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 05-21-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05-21-04.

JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276741-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Plyt 27 Mirabel Ave. St. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Josh Crandall. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-14-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-14-04.

JUNE 24 JULY 1, 8, 15 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276928-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Full Circle Productions 1725 Clay St. #100 St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed John H. Swain. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-21-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-21-04.

JUNE 24 JULY 1, 8, 15 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276879-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: City Cremation 3101 17th St. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Mary Ann Robertson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-18-04.

JUNE 24 JULY 1, 8, 15 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276913-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: McElene Construction 1646 27th Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Shane McElene. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-21-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-21-04.

JUNE 24 JULY 1, 8, 15 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276515-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Vinicios Maraes' Cleaning 2038 McAllister St. #5 San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Vinicios M. Maraes. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-04-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-21-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277094-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Nonprofit Management Advisors 55 Norfolk St. #202 San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed John Osborn. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01-1-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-25-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277025-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Breaking Orbit 338 Divisadero St. San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Martha A. Young. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-23-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277062-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Corsi Partners, Inc. 480 Pacific Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed Marc Corsi. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-24-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-24-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277136-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bibliohead Bookstore 334 Gough St. San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Melissa Richmond. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-25-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277181-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Innerprecision 864 26th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual, signed David Groode. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 05-26-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-28-04.

JULY 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is/are Coopers Gourmet, LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 185 Berry Street, Suite #560 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at 2 Sanchez St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. Type of License applied for: 41 - ON-SALE BEER & WINE - EATING PLACE

JULY 1, 8, 15 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277244-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: E & M Cafe 380 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Kwan Tsot. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 07-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-30-04.

JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: A-0270799-00

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: E & M Cafe

Located at: 380 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business was conducted by an individual named James Yu-Chia Niu. The fictitious name referred to above was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 10-20-03.

JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277257-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lombard Heights Nail Salon 3288 Steiner St. San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Tim Thi Thu. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-30-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-30-04.

JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277148-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ego Products 887 Bush St. # 502 San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Eugene Bahr. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-15-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-28-04.

JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

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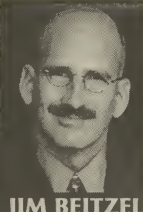
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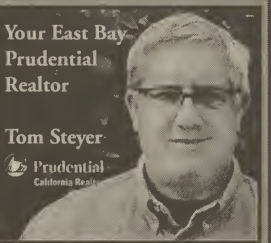
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LEGAL NOTICES
STATEMENT FILE A-0277362-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: 1207-1209 Guerrero Homeowners 1207 Guerrero St. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a Homeowners Association, signed Robert Anderson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 07-02-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07-02-04.
JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277274-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: CLUBSEEN Magazine 1177 Polk St. Ste. #305 San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Robert Kang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-30-04.
JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0277668-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: 333 International, LLC 66 Clipper St. Ste. #2 San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company, signed Andrew J. Oliff. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07-02-04.
JULY 8, 15, 22, 29 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276600-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Posh Bagel 495 Castro St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Rieky H. Ngo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.
JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To whom it may concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is/are Bre St. Francis, LLC /Western Host, Inc. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control at 185 Berry Street, Suite 5600 San Francisco, Ca 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at 335 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca 94102. Type of License applied for: 21 - OFF-SALE GENERAL 47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE
JULY 8, 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276582-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blend Salon 555 Sutter St., Ste. 301 San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Luong-Ha, Tuyet Tina. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on n/a. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.
JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276608-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Millennium Painting 858 Filbert #1 San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Greg C. Dewsnup. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 06-08-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06-08-04.
JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

STATEMENT FILE A-0276188-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: RAH Designs 3828 17th St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Robert A. Hendricks. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 05-21-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05-21-04.
JUNE 17, 24 JULY 1, 8 2004

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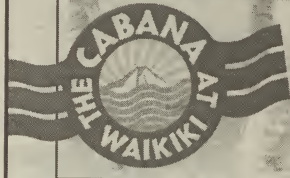
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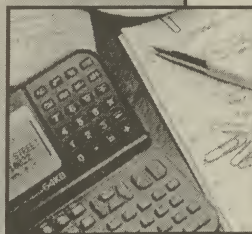
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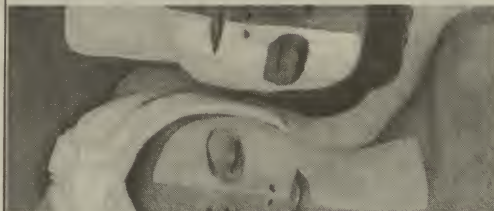
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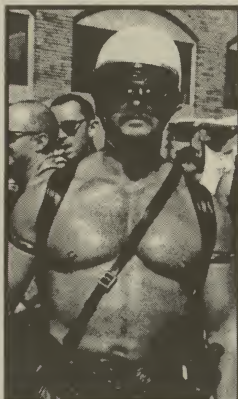
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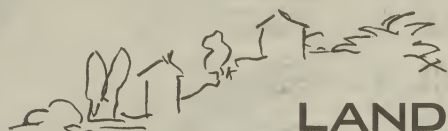
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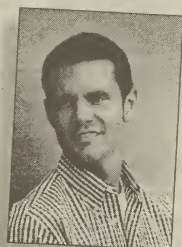
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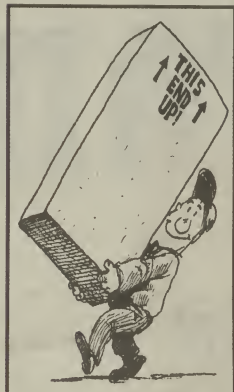
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more Straight talk from



We want to make our position perfectly clear.

This election year, there's a lot of national debate on issues that are important to the GLBT community, including the Federal Marriage Amendment. And, as a political candidate, Pete Coors has expressed his personal position on this issue. Coors Brewing Company's position on this issue differs from Pete Coors'. Coors CEO Leo Kiely outlines the company's official position as follows:

"We do not support discrimination against the GLBT community—via legislation or otherwise."

Let's be clear. We don't support amending the Constitution.

That attitude is in keeping with our actions since 1978, when we adopted an inclusive nondiscrimination policy that recognized the rights of GLBT applicants and employees. We took another important step forward in 1988 and provided corporate support to important GLBT community groups. Today, we're proud to back the efforts of the HRC, GLAAD, GPAC and numerous AIDS organizations.

And we've continued our efforts to be not only a better corporate citizen, but a better place to work as well. More than 10 years ago, we created our Lesbian and Gay Employee Resource Council (LAGER) to provide an employee support network and regularly advise our senior management. We even made history in 1995, when Coors became the first major brewery in America to offer same-sex partner health benefits.

Many people have responded positively to these efforts. In 2001, we received the Colorado Human Rights Campaign Award. And we just received the highest score possible from the Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index—100. So, while we're not perfect, we're clearly working hard to be a better company.

It's simple. At Coors, we believe supporting the rights of the GLBT community is good for our customers and our employees. And, above all, it's the right thing to do.

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Now's the time.

Thanks for listening.

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Sleeping through a health crisis
 Author Greg Behrman on 'The Invisible People' and the global AIDS pandemic.
 page 35

Gay dad, confused teen
 Showtime cable channel presents 15-year-old 'Jack.'
 page 34



'Good Body' building
 Eve Ensler's latest take on the physical at the Geary.
 page 32



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 34 • No. 28 • 8 July 2004

ALL! GAY! PULPS!

Pioneering author of gay pulp novels tells all

by Jeff Reys

That Man from C.A.M.P.: Rebel Without a Pause by Victor J. Banis, edited by Fabio Cleto (Southern Tier Editions/Harrington Park Press, \$29.95)

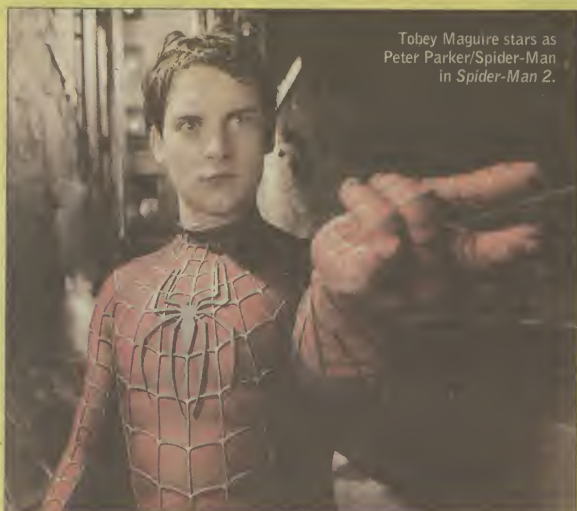
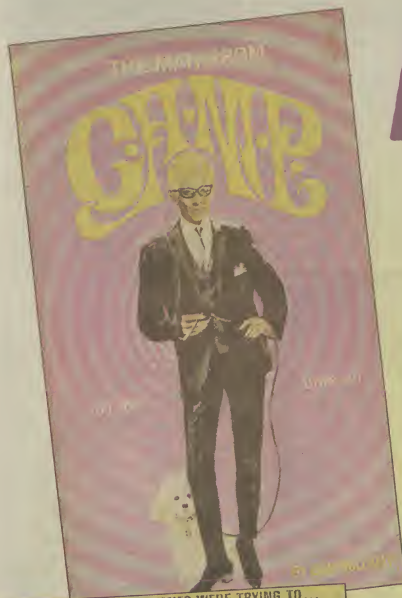
Long before Austin Powers, and even before Stonewall, there was Jackie Holmes. The ultra-fey super-agent protagonist in a series of successful mid-1960s gay pulp novels with titles like *The Man from C.A.M.P.*, *Color Him Gay* and *The Watercross File*, Jackie is an erudite, exotic-car-driving, attack-poodle-owning, full-out swisher who, like a nelly James Bond, fights all sorts of international intrigue tricked out with cool gadgets and gizmos. Unlike Bond, Jackie beds the men he encounters on the trail, unfailingly including the straight agent assigned to work with him on each particular case. Jackie's wildly entertaining adventures make perfect summer reading, and three of them can once again be enjoyed with the recent publication of *That Man from C.A.M.P.: Rebel Without a Pause* (Southern Tier Editions/Harrington Park Press).

Author Victor J. Banis created this unforgettable superspy under the pen name Don Holliday. Written in a time before gay bookstores, these pulp novels sold widely in drugstores and on newsstands nationwide. With some of the most colorful covers produced for gay pulps, the tongue-in-cheek series of nine comic novels written between '66-'68 is recognized today as an empowering artifact of a pre-Stonewall era. "I wrote them at home," says Banis, a San Francisco resident since 1985. "I treated the writing like a job. I was having lots of fun, but I also wanted to make a living."

Writing under a constellation of pen names from Victor Jay to Jan Alexander, to pulps written with his partner Sam Dodson under name combinations like Victor Dodson or Dodd Banson, Banis says he was paid around \$500-\$700 per pulp at first. "I wrote the pulps very fast, five days on average, though when they paid more, sometimes in the thousands, I put more time into them. Some of them read surprisingly well, considering, but of course some of it was just junk."

Underneath their breathless sex scenes, *The Man from C.A.M.P.* pulps possess a wicked sense of humor and, most surprisingly, scream gay power. In fact, these svelte novellas of 40,000 words or so read like the over-the-top sensibilities of Patrick Dennis and Paul Rudnick crossed with the activist consciousness of Larry Kramer and Harvey Fierstein, under a cloak

page 44 ►



Tobey Maguire stars as Peter Parker/Spider-Man in *Spider-Man 2*.

Holy leaping arachnid! 'Spider-Man 2' keeps on soaring

by David Lamble

There's a scene in *Spider-Man 2* that at first seems to come out of nowhere, and then, as it plays out before our startled eyes, sums up one of several provocative themes in this best of all comic-book movies. Spidey (Tobey Maguire) has just spent himself rescuing a trainload of commuters from an accident engineered by the film's awesome villain, the multi-tentacled Doc Ock (Alfred Molina). The straphangers drop their briefcases and hoist the exhausted superhero over their heads, carrying him Christ-like to the safety of the car. His mask slips off, revealing the peaceful countenance of Peter Parker. Someone cries out, "He's just a boy!" A small boy finds the spider-mask and returns it to its owner. Suddenly it's as if the audience itself is

in the movie, lending a hand to the all-too-human boy/man, who in a sense has jumped out of a kind of superhero closet.

At the beginning of this extraordinary sequel, Peter Parker most definitely isn't having fun yet: fired from his job as a pizza delivery boy, stifled by his editor at *The Daily Bugle* (J.K. Simmons is again smarmy and hilarious as a tightfisted yellow journalist), and dumped by his erstwhile girlfriend Mary Jane Watson (Kirsten Dunst kicks butt as a onetime damsel-in-distress who's found ambition, blowing off Spidey for a shot at Broadway). While working overtime as Gotham's unpaid and much-maligned crimefighter, deep down Peter Parker is still your oversensitive self-doubting teen. At times, Parker's anxiety causes a depletion of his secret-formula sticky stuff, prompting some most un-Spidey-like

page 43 ►

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

Physique models gone wild!

Welcome to Out There's working week

by Roberto Friedman

Department of It's about time, Mary: *Guys Gone Wild*, the alluring all-male version of *Girls Gone Wild*, is now available on DVD, featuring sexy young co-eds of the male gender who take it all off on a dare at spring break parties. What's fit for the stripping goose seems indeed fit for the show-off gander. But the producers are kidding themselves if they think the only buyers will be women. "I think it's going to be a big gag gift, bachelorette kind of gift," Mantra Entertainment spokesperson **Bill Horn** said. Right, and only gals read *Playgirl*. Maybe it depends on how you define bachelorette.

In *Girls Gone Wild*, there's always the chance that a pair of sorority sisters might just indulge in a bit of spitty tongue-hockey, but there's a total absence of kissing between the otherwise uninhibited blokes in *Guys GW*. "Let's face it, there's a



double standard when it comes to guy-on-guy as opposed to girl-on-girl," Horn told CNN.com. "It's sexy to see two girls make out. It's not considered sexy to see two guys making out. That's just the reality." Uh-oh, that means Out There must live in a spooky alternative reality. Which would explain quite a few things.

Still, it's a collective reality that does include young intoxicated men getting naked in order to gyrate and do push-ups for the videocamera, and, in one scene that seems memorable to CNN.com, "bounce up and down on their hotel room beds while tossing a football back and forth." Nude motel piggskin captured in digital formats: Kids today!

Week link

"Monday: humiliation. Tuesday: suffocation. Wednesday: condescension. Thursday is just pathetic.

"By Friday, life has killed me," sings pop star **Morrissey** on "I Have Forgiven Jesus." "By Friday, life has killed me."

Actually, for Out There, and try wrapping your brainstem around this, by Friday, life (and our work-week) is just beginning!

Our own skewed version of a weekend began last Tuesday night at a party Conde Nast threw at The Lodge, oh the lists we are on, for three starry bartenders, **Mickey Peterson** of Auberge du Soleil, **Chris Pedersen** of the W Hotel and **Marco Dionysos** of the Sir Francis Drake. All have

now achieved "star pouring status" with designer vodka Grey Goose, while, on our end, we still aspire to star guzzling status. It was the kind of glamorous guzzler party where beautiful babes in designer dresses sidled up to us and asked us which bartender we knew.

The question really is, which bartenders don't we know. Our consort **Pepi** is currently clean and sober and drinking club soda, which meant our little stash of drink tickles went way far.

On Wednesday night, ACT's high-spirited opening of playwright **Eve Ensler's** *The Good Body* at the Geary was followed by a cast party (wait a minute, can you have a cast party for a one-woman show?) at glam ristorante Puccini & Pinetti. The irony of *Good Body's* message — all our bodies are good bodies, even the ones that aren't thin or flat-stomached! — being celebrated by lavish spreads of desserts, finger sandwiches and hot-and-cold running hors d'oeuvres was not lost on us or our appetite. Gentleman companion **Pepi** reviewed the tiramisu quite highly, while OT was busy covering the choco-

late cake beat. Ensler entered the party to ovations, and we didn't see her take a single bite of the buffet.

Thursday night at San Francisco Opera, after the summer's last magical performance of **Janacek's** *The Cunning Little Vixen*, SFO General Director **Pamela Rosenberg** gave a rare curtain speech presenting the prestigious San Francisco Opera Medal to dresser **Joe Harris** in recognition of his 44 long years with the company. Harris has been the right-hand man to dazzling operatic stars (**Jose Carreras**, **Placido Domingo**) many of whom became his close friends.



Bosom buddy Sir Thomas Allen

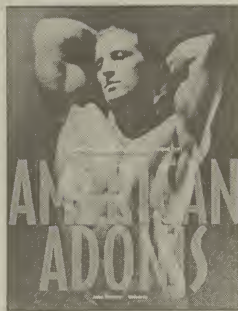
Sir Thomas Allen, still wearing his togs (great leather boots) from his signature role, the Forester in *Vixen*, gave an affectionate tribute.

So lavishly honored after the curtain calls, Harris admitted to being "over the rainbow," just another Friend of **Dorothy**, and generously offered amusing insider anecdotes like the one about having the unenviable task of having to fit "**Luciano [Pavarotti]**" into his tights." He's the first dresser ever to receive the medal. As our opera companion noted, how very European.

One less happy item as we revisit last Thursday: While the photo captions which accompanied last week's Arts & Entertainment cover story on *De-Lovely* were technically correct, and actor **Kevin Kline** does indeed play gay composer/lyricist **Cole Porter** in the film, they had nothing whatsoever to do with the pictures, which were of another performer in the film entirely, namely comely young **Robbie Williams**. We well regret the error, but never said the work-week was going to be easy.

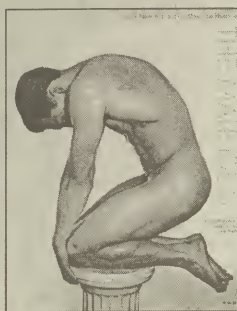
Physical education

Continuing our ongoing series of investigative reports concerning the male form in all its merry manifestations, let's hear it this week for the male physique model, who has helped OT and many a young queer through difficult adolescence, from earliest times of the very first physique pictorials to today's wacky world of *Guys Gone Wild*. Two new books from Universe celebrate bodybuilding icons, *American Adonis: Tony Sansone, the First Male Physique Icon* (by **John Massey**) and *The Male Ideal: Lon of New York and the Masculine*



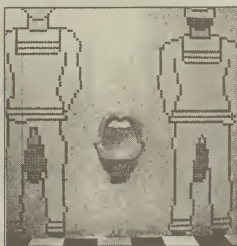
Physique (by **Reed Massengill**).

Sansone was a famous nude model and bodybuilder in the 1920s who was lauded by no less a fitness guru than **Charles Atlas** as being the most beautiful man in America. *American Adonis'* 120 photos are stunning visual testimony. Sansone's friend **John Grimek**, a former Mr. America and Mr. Universe, called him "the Master of Display."



Alonzo Hanagan aka **Lon** of New York was one of the pioneers of physique photography, beginning in the 1930s in NYC, where he arrived to study music at Juilliard. *The Male Ideal* boasts 170 Lon of New York photos, many of them previously thought lost.

These books really chart the secret life of homosexuality, as the gay adulation of the body has been practiced through the popular art of photography from its very beginnings. The exploration continues, and we, every last homo one of us, are the camera.



Non-PC urinal at JFK Airport

Magazine wrack

Wonderful world of men's rooms: The National Organization for Women (**NOW**) is still pissed off over the mouth-shaped urinals in Virgin Airlines' Upper Class Clubhouse tearoom at JFK Airport. The new issue of *Razor* magazine shows a picture of the offending urine receptacle, designed by Dutch company Bathroom Mania. Yes, it's lipstickked, and yes, it's wide-open and inviting your member in. But even more lovely are the cute tile-mosaic sailors depicted having a whiz on either side. The offending urinals were whisked away as soon as the p.r. started turning sour. Out There says just install a trough and be done with it.

Meanwhile, who knew ancient rock star **Rod Stewart** had such a pair of well-developed, lithe-some legs? A photo in *Star* maga-

page 35 ►

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THEATRE

Beyond the ridiculous

Everett Quinton in 'The Underpants' at San Jose Rep

by Richard Dodds

Imagine a woozy Elmer Fudd and you get some idea of Everett Quinton's performance in *The Underpants*. The longtime director of the Ridiculous Theatrical Company, and the partner of its late founder Charles Ludlam, Quinton is now creating a cartoon in 3-D realism for whom every movement is fraught with some comedic peril.

"I always start with emotional realism, and then let things develop," Quinton said recently. "I went to see a production of Charles' *Camille* up in Boston, and it was a dog because they left out the emotional truth. I cut my teeth on these broad, hard-hitting comedies, so I often think that maybe I've developed some bad habits. Now it's a matter of finding a place to make them work."

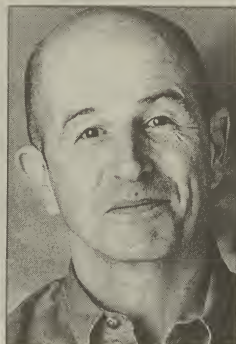
That place is currently San Jose Rep, where *The Underpants* is running through July 18. In Steve Martin's adaptation of a Carl Sternheim play, Quinton plays a hapless soul trying to rent a room from a humorless bureaucrat and his sexually frustrated wife on a day in 1910 when scandal has befallen this Dusseldorf household. At a parade honoring the king, the wife's underpants slipped to the ground, a calamity that her husband feels will certainly cost him his job and reputation.

Quinton's character is named Cohen, and he tries with comic desperation to disguise his religion for his prospective land. "A lot of people are having difficulty, thinking that my character is anti-Semitic, and it's really not," he said. "It is a reaction to anti-Semitism."

The 53-year-old actor related to Cohen's fears of revealing his true identity. "I'm a queer, and I knew what it was like and still what it's like to have to hide. There are times even now I choose not to be forward about it. I don't mean I'm a closet queen, but I don't want to fight every war."

He grew up with 11 siblings in a Brooklyn home with a hard-drinking, physically abusive father (and member of the John Birch Society). Quinton thought of himself as "this little sick fruit." He wanted to be an actor, but it seemed an insane ambition. "I would hide myself in the bathroom and act in my towels, and I would always do Bette Davis instead of John Wayne. And it wasn't until I met Charles that it was like, oh, yes, there's a place for me."

As founder and cross-dressing star of the Ridiculous Theatrical Company, Charles Ludlam was already a veteran of the downtown theater scene when he met Quinton



Quinton: 'Show up prepared.'

in 1975. They became partners in life and on stage, and together they most famously created the quick-change roles in *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. Ludlam died of AIDS in 1987, and Quinton kept the Ridiculous company going for another 10 years.

"When the Ridiculous ended, I found myself in this other world of having to compete for roles," Quinton said. He has recently played the wicked stepmother in a national tour of *Cinderella* starring Eartha Kitt, and he's become a regular director at the Omaha Theatre Company for Young People.

His is a name known in certain quarters. "Maybe people know my name, but the danger is that I am recognized as this over-the-top queer," he said. "That's my badge of honor, but it's a little scary when you think you've been pegged. I have trust in God, allow myself to be pegged and enjoy that, and then show up prepared."

Quinton's invocation of God is a serious matter. "My issue is the hetero usurpation of God, and unless we break that down, there's not going to be any advancement for us. They talk about 'civil unions' that would not be sanctioned by God, and I say they need to go fuck themselves on that issue. I'm sick of them determining what God thinks of us."

Quinton grew up Catholic, and figured early on he must be bound for Hell. "When I was a kid, I'd bring my girlfriend home, and then I'd scurry to Prospect Park and do it with guys, so you don't think very well of yourself. It always had this nasty darkness. And that's what Oscar Wilde had, too. All Oscar had was Bosie, who was this little booger, but I identify with Bosie and his inability to care for himself and in his inability to stand up to his father. But I would bitch-slap Bosie to the dirt now."

Quinton has Oscar Wilde on

his mind these days because he's directing *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Arena Theatre in Washington, DC, this fall. Then it's most likely back to auditions.

"Let the world just happen," Quinton said. "As my friend Henry likes to say, 'Onward into the next brick wall.'"

Rhino on the loose

Theatre Rhino is headed East with two productions to be seen as part of the New York International Fringe Festival in August. John Fisher's play *Queer Theory* and Sara Moore's one-woman *Show Ho* will be among more than 200 productions chosen for this year's event. In fact, Theatre Rhino notes that it is the only company to have two shows accepted for the festival.

Before Rhino hitches up its wagons, P.A. Cooley and 'Drew Todd are hosting a variety show to benefit the theater. *A Midsummer Night's Madness* takes place on July 10 at the LGBT Center. The bill includes magician-storyteller Christian Cagigal, the lesbian comedy duo Deb Zone, ventriloquists Coulter and Star, and Miss TrannyShack nee Suppositori Spelling. Tickets are \$20 at the door or at therhino.org.

Short scenes

New Conservatory Theatre Center continues its *In Concert* music series with *Goldfield & Koldewyn*, opening July 10. Singer Cindy Goldfield and musician Richard "Scrumby" Koldewyn first performed together in NCTC's *The Texas Chainsaw Manicurist*, and have teamed for a cabaret show that includes standards, novelty tunes, and torch

songs, plus an occasional ukulele. Call 861-8972 or go to nctcsf.org.

A car crash turns a mild-mannered young woman into a sexy adventuress in *Becca & Heidi*, opening July 17 at Exit Theatre Café. The Shee Theatre Company is presenting the world premiere of company member Sharon Eberhardt's comedy, and it features Lindsay Anderson in the title roles. Call (510) 612-1074 or go to theshee.org.



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BRIAN KOPPELMANP.A. Cooley and 'Drew Todd host *A Midsummer Night's Madness*.

The tummy monologues

'The Good Body' at the Geary Theater

by Richard Dodds

When you start with vaginas, the only way is up. Up the body, that is. Eve Ensler, who created *The Vagina Monologues*, is doing a lot of navel-gazing in her latest show.

The Good Body, having its world premiere at the Geary Theater, starts its journey at Ensler's belly — or more precisely at what

advertisers' used to call the social embarrassment of midriff bulge. Ensler gives us a glimpse of her slightly pudgy middle as she reveals her own body issues before recreating conversations with women whose physical obsessions can become downright creepy.

That's the case with the woman who secretly eats fattening foods so her plastic-surgeon husband won't ever be done improving her. Ensler counters extreme stories

with such familiar subjects as tough training coaches and a fat camp where the dieters sneak snacks.

"Fat girls always swallow," Ensler says of the sexual practices of the overweight. The performer-playwright sprinkles her monologues with little shockers like that, helping to spark the well-traveled areas that *The Good Body* often visits.

"Diet plan: Kill my mother," Ensler says. Clearly there are self-esteem problems for her that go beyond everyday concerns with appearance. "Self-hatred," she reports, "crept up to my stomach."

On her travels to India, she found women to celebrate because they were comfortable with their ample bodies. But in a country of such widespread hunger, fat and happy may seem an odd thing to so cheerily applaud.

The Good Body falls into other traps, the most visible being Ensler's own body. Here is a woman clearly in good shape, but she seems to be saying it's a result of unhealthy attitudes. And yet she wears a sleeveless outfit that emphasizes that she can get away with wearing a sleeveless outfit.

The meandering monologue ends up with Ensler in



JOHN MARCUS

Eve Ensler has a pudgy middle, but can get away with a sleeveless outfit.

Afghanistan. Ice cream is a pleasure forbidden to women, but she joins in with a small group secretly enjoying the frozen contraband. Ensler eats the ice cream, she tells us, for all women. That's one way to rationalize your midriff bulge.

Ensler is an engaging storyteller, her evocations of other personali-

ties are convincing, and her concerns about body image are certainly widely shared. But the topic is hardly fresh, and Ensler arrives at it with a curious set of baggage.

The Good Body will run at the Geary Theatre through Aug. 1. Tickets are \$15-\$68. Call 749-2228 or go to act-sfbay.org. ▼

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Western omelette

'Showdown at Crawford Gulch' in parks

by Richard Dodds

The *reductum ad absurdum* of the San Francisco Mime Troupe works best when audiences arrive seduced by a comfortable status quo. Then the group can use its annual summer show to point up how the tentacles of the politico-corporate leviathan reach insidiously into our contented lives.

But these are not those times, and the Mime Troupe doesn't quite know how to effectively take on George W. Bush and Company. With movies like *Fahrenheit 9/11*, TV programs like *The Daily Show*, books like the exposés by former Bush officials, and reports from those blue-ribbon panels, you need to squeeze hard to find fresh satire and revelations from the lemon we have been given.

In *Showdown at Crawford Gulch*, Michael Gene Sullivan has created a Wild West parody that imagines a mayor (Ed Holmes) and a fancy-pants businessman (Amos Glick) stirring up fears of Indian attacks. "The only way to help these savages to respect the law is to arrest them before they break it," says the mayor, who looks a lot like Dick Cheney.

It's a funny line and promising setup, but the script doesn't sustain a lot of energy in director Keiko Shimosato's production. The plot includes a variety of townfolks, from the sheriff to the schoolmarm, and there are jokes about the prisoner-abuse scandal, the Martha Stewart trial, and the substitution of "freedom" for anything named for France. They get laughs of recognition.

Occasional quips do hit home, like the encouraged fear that the Comanches have developed arrows of mass destruction. Several



DAVID ALLEN

Clem (Victor Toman) and Parson Jones (Michael Carreiro) in *Crawford*.

of the songs by Sullivan and composer Jason Sherbundy also crank things up. Sullivan displays a good voice as the sheriff on "Everything a Man Should Be," a mostly serious ballad about his failures of courage. And "Spinning Round and Round" is a lively tune performed by a newswoman (Velina Brown) and her gung-ho reporter (Lori Hori-Garcia).

The San Francisco Mime Troupe, now in its 45th year,

would probably gladly accept the label of rabble-rouser. Round these parts, on the subject of George W. Bush, audiences pretty much come pre-roused. But the show also goes to places like Walnut Creek, Modesto, and Fresno, where there could be fresh rabble to be roused.

Showdown at Crawford Gulch will run through Sept. 26 in area parks. Admission is free. For a full schedule, go to sfmt.org. ▼

The great one passes

Marlon Brando is remembered

by David Lamble

There is no office labeled "King of actors," yet last week it was universally conceded that the late Marlon Brando has served this office with uncommon nobility, and that a successor was nowhere in sight. No sooner had the news broken that the 80-year-old Brando had succumbed to a lung disease than voices who seldom hear chimed in with the kind of notices you can't buy.

Sean Penn, the Marin-based Oscar-winning director/performer whom some have dubbed the prince consort, appeared on the New York City-based *Charlie Rose Show*. Dressed all in black, not necessarily in respect for

Brando, Penn fondly remembered getting 2 a.m. phone calls from the actor. Chain-smoking through much of his 30-minute appearance, Penn emphasized that Brando was the kind of incendiary performer who transcended the greatest text through an acting style that could only be dubbed poetic.

"I always imagine a little boy sitting in the weeds by a picket fence, fleeing alcoholism, with an imagination that took him somewhere else. And that imagination developed into the greatest poetic actor that ever lived. I think of him that way. Anyone who reads *Streetcar Named Desire* will read a play about Blanche DuBois. But to see Marlon in it was something else. This isn't because it's an actor serving himself instead of a play,

it's because even the greatest writer of that time couldn't rise to the poetry of this creature who was Marlon Brando, and it overwhelms things, yet gives one a gift on the level of any of the great plays."

Bio pick

Film critic Richard Schickel seemed to be everywhere last Friday talking about the subject of his biography *Brandon: A Life in Our Time*. Appearing on the PBS *News Hour*, Schickel noted that early in his career, Brandon was drafted for a role he really didn't care to play. "There'd been in America, since the Stanislavski company had come here in the '20s, a passionate desire among actors to break out of the well-spoken English, 'pip pip' kind of mode, and get into something much more behaviorally truthful. It was in the Group Theatre, it was in the Actors' Studio, and they were always looking for a champion. And here comes this gorgeous hunk, who had all that ability to look at behavior, emulate it and bring it to his performances. He became their leader, except he didn't want to be anybody's leader, he just wanted to be an actor."

Schickel added that he didn't consider Brando a Method actor. "He was an observer, he was a guy who liked to hang out, literally, in phone booths when he was a young actor, and watch the passing parade, and imitate behavior



Brando had the ability to observe human behavior and emulate it in art.

and language.

"His great discoverer, the director Elia Kazan, was also of that school. So when they started doing *Streetcar*, that was like two wonderful, affectionate forces coming together to do this behavioral acting. I don't think Brando,

with the one exception in *Last Tango in Paris*, ever delved into autobiography."

Penn echoed Schickel's opinion of Brando as the great observer. "He knew what all 10 flies in the room were doing while he was talking to

next page ►

Neo-noir in London

Clive Owen heads for the dark side

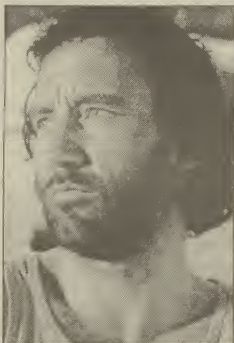
by Robert Julian

Director Mike Hodges (*Croupier*) once again unites with hunky leading man Clive Owen, to tell a dark tale of revenge and isolation in *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead*. Screenwriter and co-producer Trevor Preston weaves a neo-noir tale as dark as Jon Bunker's production design. Their London is a place of shadows and sorrow, only briefly illuminated by glittering parties and gleaming automobiles. But this time around, the Hodges/Owen pairing fails to deliver the magic of *Croupier*.

The first half of *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead* unfolds in fits and starts, with a series of characters and events that will not begin to sort themselves out until the last half of the movie. The camera begins by following Davey (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) around London as he deals cocaine, shags babes, and leads the life of a petulant, spoiled, petty grifter. As a character, he is so unsympathetic, it isn't too disturbing when Davey gets raped by an impeccably tailored power-broker (Malcolm McDowell). A few hours later, when Davey is found dead in his bathtub, the loss to humanity does not overwhelm.

Enter the avenging angel: Davey's brother, Will (Clive Owen). Will has been living in self-imposed rural isolation, estranged from his former underworld connections as well as his former girlfriend, Helen (Charlotte Rampling). But Will returns to his old London haunts to solve the mystery of his brother's death, a process that takes the film from midpoint to completion.

Despite its moody, noir texture, *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead* does not intrigue or engage. All the characters are emotionally cold, and the story plods along with no highs or lows; the film has no pulse. Charlotte Rampling's face is now sliding elegantly into a mask of tragedy, illuminated by her slate



Owen's charm, talent are wasted.

blue eyes. But Rampling's customary magical presence is so muted here she makes no impact whatsoever. Jonathan Rhys Meyers is annoying, and Malcolm McDowell is written in one dimension. But the real crime is the waste of Clive Owen's considerable charm and talent.

For 90% of *I'll Sleep*, the bearded Owen is dressed and groomed like the Unibomber. His Will is a man-mountain of monosyllables living in a van, sporting one facial expression (glum), and bearing the physical presence of a high school janitor on downers. In the last 10 minutes of the film, Will transforms himself (like an episode of *The Swan*) into the elegantly groomed and attired rogue he once was. But by this time, it is too little and too late for the audience.

Burdened by leaden pacing and a rather implausible rape scenario, *I'll Sleep When I'm Dead* really only succeeds in creating a highly atmospheric milieu for its characters to roam around in. Since they all seem to be sleepwalking, the title belies itself. I suppose, however, *Night of the Living Dead* was already taken. ▼

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Working girls and their careers

'The Best of Everything' plays the Castro Theatre

by Tavo Amador

As if life for Manhattan career girls in the '50s wasn't hard enough, what with paying the rent, sharing a tiny apartment with roommates, meeting Mr. Right, and doing well at the office, they also had to handle Adultery, Abortion, Alcoholism and Ambition. Blonde Caroline (Hope Lange), redhead Gregg (Suzy Parker) and brunette April (Diane Baker) face these problems in *The Best of Everything* ('59), based on Rona Jaffe's bestseller and playing the Castro Theatre July 12-14. The three come to New York to pursue their dreams and end up typing at a publishing firm.

Caroline, intent on becoming an editor, starts as a secretary for Amanda Farrow (Joan Crawford), the house bitch goddess. She also rebuffs the advances of Mike (Stephen Boyd), another executive, because she's true to her hometown boyfriend, Eddie (the beautiful Brett Halsey). When Gregg isn't in the steno pool, she's auditioning for stage roles and falls in love with handsome director David Savage (Louis Jourdan), who gives her a part. April goes all the way with wealthy playboy Dexter Key (Robert Evans) because she's sure he'll marry her anyway. She should have listened to mother! And poor Barbara (Martha Hyer) has to cope with the unwelcome advances of Senior Editor Mr. Shalimar (Brian Aherne). Where else would you find a dirty old man sharing a name with a famous, expensive perfume?

David soon grows tired of the needy Gregg and fires her from the play. Humiliated, she lets everyone know that they're having an affair, but it's too late. She grovels, begs, all to no avail. And then things get even worse. Meanwhile, April gets

pregnant and dear Dexter tells her they're going to elope — but instead he takes her to a sleazy doctor for an abortion. Will she survive?

Caroline learns that Eddie has dumped her for a small-town heiress and is shocked when he suggests she become his Manhattan mistress. She's consoled over a two-martini lunch by the sexy, hard-drinking Mike. And Amanda, who's been having an affair with a man married to a "rabbit-faced wife," chucks it all for domestic bliss and a husband, a widower with a ready-made family. Surprisingly (perhaps she suffers from schizophrenia), she recommends that Caroline replace her. However, Amanda discovers it's too late for her to be a *hausfrau* and returns to the firm. What does this mean for Caroline?

Big-city girls

Twentieth Century Fox and producer Jerry Wald gave the film the full wide-screen, glamour treatment: New York locations (the ladies work in the Seagram Building), neat costumes (the girls are always in high heels with matching gloves, hats and purses) and an Alfred Newman score, with the title song sung by Johnny Mathis. Director Jean Negulesco, who guided Crawford in '46's *Humoresque*, and helmed other hits that centered around three women finding love in a big city — *How To Marry a Millionaire* ('53), *Three Coins in the Fountain* ('54) — keeps things moving smoothly and seductively.

The lovely, talented Lange manages to be believable as Caroline. The beautiful Parker, the era's top model, isn't good, but she is watchable and sympathetic. Baker, who would play Crawford's daughter in *Straight Jacket* ('64), is appropriately naive. Evans, in his last acting role before becoming a

producer (*The Godfather*, '74), is repulsive; and Boyd has a virile charm. The screen crackles, however, only when Jourdan and Crawford appear. They're peripheral to the action, but Crawford makes her presence felt even when she's off-camera, and got the only good reviews the movie earned. She accepted the part — and special billing — shortly after being widowed by her fourth husband, PepsiCo CEO Alfred Steele, who left her with a mountain of debts. Reportedly, studio executives cut several of her key scenes, fearing the film ran too long, and wanting to focus on the younger "stars." Theatre-owners in Manhattan knew better, and marquee read, "Joan Crawford and Hope Lange in..." Years later, she told biographer Lawrence Quirk that she had shown "all those young bitches" a thing or two about acting. Actually, she gave them a lesson in genuine star power, which, in glossy, campy trash like this, is more enjoyable than good acting. ▼



Crawford, as the house bitch goddess at a publishing firm, steals the film.

'Jack' be nimble

Gay dad presents a problem for teen

by David Nahmod

With little fanfare or advertising, Showtime cable channel has snuck a sweet little surprise named *Jack* into its summer schedule.

The story is simple. Fifteen-year-old Jack (Anton Yelchin) is dealing with his parents' divorce. His dad, Paul (Ron Silver), tells him that he's gay. Jack now has to deal with Dad's new lover, Bob,

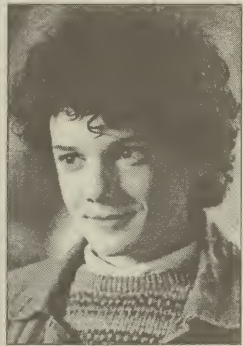
and the taunts he receives at school. Jack rejects his father and Bob.

The script has more plot twists than an average episode of *Days of Our Lives*. Jack falls in love with a girl who herself has a gay dad. Jack then turns to his best friend's family, the Burkas, whom he views as the "perfect family," only to learn that Mrs. Burka (Wendy Crewson) is a battered wife. Suddenly his own broken family and his gay dad don't look so bad.

The film has many powerful moments. Staunch gay-rights advocate Stockard Channing appears as Anne, Jack's mom. She and Paul struggle to accept each other for their son's sake. You might get a lump in your throat along with them as they recall the love they once shared.

The film's most moving moment comes when Bob (Paul McGillion) goes to a lot of trouble to cook Jack dinner, which Jack refuses to eat. The disappointment in Bob's face is a hurt that will cut close to home for many of us.

For those of us in the Bay Area, *Jack* will seem like what it is, a wholesome TV-movie. We are, after all, used to seeing cutting-edge queer films at the Frameline



Jack (Anton Yelchin) has to deal.

festival. But perhaps *Jack*, while no masterpiece, is a more important film than we realize. The closing credits reveal it to be a co-production of the Hallmark Channel, purveyors of "family entertainment." *Jack* has the potential to reach Middle America, and to teach tolerance.

Jack will air on Showtime and its sister channels, Showtime Too and Showcase, throughout July and into August. Check daily listings for dates and times. ▼

Marlon Brando

◀ previous page

you. His observations were so acute that he might as well be panting everybody on the street. He would open the person up, and it would acknowledge an awareness that you had, but you had it subconsciously. He was able to articulate it with that voice and those eyes that just made you part of it."

Years ago at the height of his success, Brando confided his ambivalent feelings about fame to a young writer who also had some problems in that department. Author Truman Capote, writing a famous piece for *The New Yorker*, "The Duke in His Domain," cap-

tured a very vulnerable Brando wondering how much he liked being Brando.

"You know, it took me a long time before I was aware that that's what I was — a big success. I was so absorbed in myself, my own problems, I never looked around, took account. I used to walk about New York, miles and miles, walk in the streets late at night, and never see anything.

"I was never really sure about acting, whether that was what I really wanted to do; I'm still not. Then, when I was in *Streetcar*, and it had been running a couple of months, one night — dimly, dimly — I began to hear this roar. It was like I'd been asleep, and I woke up here sitting on a pile of candy." ▼

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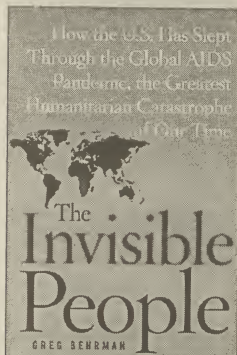
BOOKS

State of emergency

Author Greg Behrman on global AIDS

by Sandip Roy

The final death toll for 9/11, one of the deadliest attacks in America's history, came out to about 3,000. "At the same time, global AIDS was taking 8,000 lives everyday," says author Greg Behrman. The statistics keep piling up. 25 million have already died of AIDS. 65 million have been infected in the last 20 years. In countries like Botswana, two out of five adults are infected. In 2010, there will be 25 million AIDS orphans.



In his new book *The Invisible People*, Behrman, 27, tries to weave together this dizzying array of exploding statistics and WHO policy papers into one narrative mapping the progress of the pandemic. The history of AIDS, says Behrman, is mired in Cold War politics, neglect and denial. "At so many turns, there was so much we could have done for relatively little that would have saved so many lives, but we chose not to," says Behrman, who is donating proceeds from his book to Heartbeat, a South African organization caring for AIDS orphans.

It's not for nothing the full, rather wordy title of his book reads, *The Invisible People - How the U.S. Has Slept Through the Global AIDS Pandemic, the Greatest Humanitarian Catastrophe of Our Time* (Free Press, \$25). Behrman tells the story of Joe McCormick, a "virus hunter" for the Center for Disease Control who first realized in the '80s that AIDS was in the general population in Africa and spread through hetero-



Behrman: 'We're 10 years behind.'

sexual contact. When he told Edward Brandt, Ronald Reagan's assistant secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Brandt said, "I don't believe it. You must have got it all wrong." Brandt wondered instead whether mosquitoes might not be transmitting the disease.

"Mosquitoes were obviously easier for him to talk about than sex," Behrman quotes McCormick as saying.

But Brandt was not alone. Even *The New England Journal of Medicine*, incredulous that the disease might be heterosexual, would not publish McCormick's paper. African leaders were in outright denial. Zambia's President Frederick Chiluba would not attend the opening of the 11th International Conference on AIDS in his own capital even as his housing minister was dying from it. It took 1,200 people dying every week for Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe to acknowledge the crisis.

"There is enough complicity to go around," admits Behrman, who is also the Coordinator for the Council on Foreign Relations Roundtable on Improving US Global AIDS Policy. But he says the US, though a leading donor to the fight against AIDS, "does not have a good position in relation to other advanced economies per our share of global wealth."

Behrman ticks off many reasons for that. The disease was hitting Africa most punishingly, and Africa was a neglected continent. The latency of the disease meant infections would pile up for years

before sickness and death were visible. The '90s were marked by the US pulling back from international obligations.

Rat race

Even President Bill Clinton, who put the global AIDS crisis into his inaugural address, never forcefully pushed a real plan. "He was a champion in empathy, but not on policy," says Behrman. Of course, Clinton was also stymied by the powerful Senator Jesse Helms, who had described foreign assistance as throwing money down "a rat-hole." Helms took charge of the Foreign Relations Committee.

But in what Behrman calls "one of the most remarkable and surprising moments in the history of AIDS," even Helms came around. "I'm ashamed I've done so little," Helms said in 2002. Part of that turnaround came from his curious partnership with rock star Bono, who made AIDS in Africa his mission. But the other thing that happened, says Behrman, was that "missionaries were going to Africa and seeing the impact of this disease, and they were coming back and reporting a holocaust to their religious leaders." When evangelists like Franklin Graham, Billy Graham's son, woke up to the AIDS crisis, Helms could not ignore the issue.

There were more surprises in store. After 9/11, with a war in Afghanistan and an impending one in Iraq, activists assumed global AIDS would completely fall off the Bush agenda. But President Bush committed \$15 billion to the fight against AIDS in 2003. Behrman says the pressure from the faith community helped. "Also, as we were about to go to war, there was an imperative to demonstrate American humanity and generosity, and the beneficiary happened to be global AIDS policy."

Activists are doubtful as to how real that \$15 billion really is. The Administration has been criticized for emphasizing abstinence over condoms. But Behrman hopes there is at least some momentum. "Now we have awoken to the crisis, but we continue to be in many ways 10 years behind the curve," says Behrman. "We do know what to do. We just have to muster the courage to do it." ▼

Out There

◀ page 30

zine shows the elderly Rod cloy lifting his kilt to show off his panty package at the AmFAR Cinema Against AIDS event in Cannes last May. *Star* speculates Stewart's soccer-playing may have something to do with his musculature, but we personally think it's all the cigarettes he smokes.

Layabouts

Last Saturday's *Chronicle* had an item in the sports section that, Lordy Almighty, we never expected to see. An AP report covered last Friday's Cleveland Indians victory over the Cincinnati Reds. The winning pitcher was a Japanese athlete named Kazuhito Tadano, and the AP reported, "Tadano, shunned by Japanese pro teams aware that he had appeared in a gay porn video, got his first keepsake moment in the majors, striking out a career high 10

in seven innings.

"Tadano allowed two runs and four hits. He even rounded out his night by getting a single in his first big-league at-bat and scoring a run."

Out There thinks we have seen this film loop, Tadano's solo contribution to the blue-movie canon, and it scored more than a single with us. We only remember it involved ropes and bondage, but we can never keep up with the baseball stats!

Reminds us what an icon of masculine authority the late great Marlon Brando was, just throbbing with sex appeal for women and gay men alike. After seeing *Streetcar Named Desire*, the gay playwright Thornton Wilder sniffed to the great gay Tennessee Williams, "I don't believe a woman of Stella's breeding would ever fall in love with a man like Stanley." Williams said nothing, but later repeated the comment to friends, adding, "Poor Thornton. I guess he never had a good lay." ▼



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OUT&ABOUT



The Kinsey Sicks get down with the Bushies in *I Wanna Be A Republican* at Herbst Theatre. See Friday.

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Neruda the muse

There's nothing gay I can think of about Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, yet he's the poet who more than anyone inspired me to both read and write poetry. I think I discovered Ferlinghetti first, in high school sometime back in the early 1970s, and I did my best to imitate/appreciate his quirky urbane style, but soon I was in my romantic, pastoral Latin American phase — playing the backpacking gringo

during my 20s — and it was Pablo Neruda who most inspired my wanderings and scribbles. At one point, one of my closest friends in college was a Chilean from Temuco, Neruda's home town, and this friend, while ostensibly straight, had the sweetest, gentlest, most poetic nature of anyone I'd encountered up till then, and his personal muse was Neruda, whose verse he could rattle off by heart in Spanish or English. On a rustic campus in southern Vermont, Enrique and I spent many an hour romancing each other by reading Neruda's verse aloud in our dorm rooms. We discussed the great folk poet at length, a true poet of the people, who represented the heart and soul of the working class — our kind of people.

Now we'll all soon have a chance to share in the romance and glory of Pablo Neruda, in the form of the world premiere of Mark Eisner's cinematic portrait, *Pablo Neruda! Presente!*, which is to be unveiled at Theatre Artaud (450 Florida St.) in a week of events from July 12-18, with live music and poetry readings throughout, all part of a centennial celebration co-presented by City Lights Bookstore and the Latino Film Festival.

Narrated by author Isabel Allende, *Pablo Neruda! Presente!* is a poetic interpretation and celebration of the Nobel Prize laureate's life. The filmmaker notes that Neruda's poems "feature the tones of a river of red poppies, the earth, red wine, horses' breaths, rain, and the silver stones of Machu Picchu," a magnificent sentiment.

A verse Neruda wrote about Easter Island, which Neruda visited in 1971 toward the end of his life, illustrates his position as a romantic poet drawn to the primitive, but with a powerful social conscience and all-too aware of the intrusion of modernity into the once private domain of ancient giants (translation by William O'Daly): "I am the pilgrim / of Easter Island ... / I am here, like the other fat pilgrims / who in English suckle and raise the ruins: / illustrious courtiers of tourism, just like Sinbad / and Columbus, those who discover nothing more / than the price of their drinks."

Neruda died 12 days after the end of democracy in Chile, after the Augusto Pinochet military coup that ousted the first democratically elected Marxist president Salvador Allende, and the film begins as Isabel Allende flees the country. In flashbacks we learn of Neruda's childhood in southern Chile, where he was a literary prodigy who began publishing poems in popular magazines at the age of 14. At 20 Neruda published *10 Love Poems and a Song of Despair*, and his literary career was set in motion, in tandem with his political career.

Pablo Neruda! Presente! screens at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, July 12, at Theatre Artaud, preceded by a book launch party for *The Essential Neruda*, with readings from Robert Haas, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Mark Eisner, Forrest Gander and live music by Quijere-ma. A fiesta follows the screening. Similar readings and screenings will take place each night through July 18. For more information, call 415-621-7797 or click on www.redpoppy.net ▼



Pablo Neruda

Fri 9

Same River Twice @ ODC Theater

Artship Dance/Theater presents *Same River Twice*, an exploration and commentary on the themes of uprooting, cultural displacement, and the search for home, against the background of constant change, as seen through the eyes of emigrants/immigrants. Conceived, directed and choreographed by Slobodan Dan Paich in collaboration with Marija Krtilica. Featuring dancers/factors Catrina Kaupat, Stefan Christenberry, Nancy Ratner, Andrej Hostynek, Mardi Van Winkle, Franco Giunta, and Nadya Velnova. Live music with Suellem Primost on cello and John Kadyk on clarinet & steel drum. \$20. 8pm Thu, Fri & sat; 3pm Sun. Plays July 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix: 415-863-9834; ticketweb.com

The Kinsey Sicks: I Wanna Be A Republican @ Herbst Theatre

America's Favorite Dragapella Beautyshop Quartet, The Kinsey Sicks revel in patriotism, pageantry and perversity in their new show, "I Wanna Be A Republican," in which the Sicks reveal the reasons behind their defection to the GOP; tips for effective [political] party planning; views on food, sex and real estate development; and the secret of their new creative collaboration with President Bush. Rich, four-part a cappella singing, wicked satire and over-the-top drag. The Kinsey Sicks' also celebrate the release of their fourth CD, "I Wanna Be A Republican" and 10th anniversary of The Kinsey Sicks' very first performance. Tix: City Box Office, 415-392-4400; www.cityboxoffice.com. Info: www.kinseysicks.com.

Magnet's One Year Birthday Reception

Look for the red air dancers and you've found the spot. Drop by Magnet for cake and other libations as they celebrate their one-year anniversary. The Magnet folks want to thank all of their clients for an incredible year supporting gay men's health in SF. Free. 7-10pm. Magnet, 4122 - 18th St. Info: 415-581-1600; magnetsf.org.

Sat 10

Goldfield & Koldewyn @ NCTC

Opening night: The New Conservatory Theatre Center's In Concert Series presents *Goldfield & Koldewyn*, starring Cindy Goldfield & Richard "Scumbly" Koldewyn, featuring Goldfield's big, bright-eyed personality and Koldewyn's droll sense of humor bouncing off each other through an evening of musical adventure. Standards become novelties and the obscure becomes familiar in their hands. Song styles range from contemporary musicals to music of the 1920s and 1930s, to English Music Hall. Although many numbers are performed with a comic touch (from tongue-in-cheek amusing to the hilarious), Cindy belts or croons a mean torch song or three, and Scumbly delivers a moving ballad himself. Cindy Goldfield is a two-time recipient of the Critics' Circle Award for performance in a musical, and is a director/choreographer in musical theatre; Scumbly Koldewyn, one of the original Cockeys and a composer/musical director for theatre and film, has received a Critics' Circle Award for original music. His vocal trio, The Jesters (now in semi-retirement) was three-time recipient of the Cabaret Gold Award. \$25 Fri & Sat; \$20 Sun matinee. 8pm (3pm Sun). NCTC, 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix/info: 415-861-8972; www.nctcsf.org

Awe About Eve @ Theatre Rhinoceros

Theatre Rhinoceros presents *Awe About Eve*, starring Matthew Martin, directed by John Fisher and Matthew Martin. Also starring Floriana Alessandria, Shira Burstein, David Bicha, Jeffrey Hartgraves, Libby O'Connell, Maryssa Wanless, and Matt Weiner. Fasten your seat belts! It's the story of Margo, an aging Broadway star who suffers from the hidden menace of a self-effacing but secretly ruthless and ambitious young actress. \$15/\$20. 8pm Thu-Sat, 3pm Sun, thru July 18. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. Tix/info: 415-861-5079; www.thehino.org

P.A. Cooley @ The Center

Theatre Rhinoceros presents "A Midsummer Night's Madness," a variety show to benefit Theatre Rhino. Starring your host P.A. Cooley and featuring Auntie Drew, the fabulous co-hostess with the mostest, plus guest stars Christian Cagial (magician/sit-

ryteller); Coulter and Star (ventriloquist); The Deb Zone (lesbian comedy duo); singers Jackie Jones, Patti Wolfe, and Don Seaver; and Suppositori Spelling (Miss Transnashack). \$20. 7:30pm refreshments; 8pm show. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 415-861-5079; www.thehino.org

Queer Ballroom Party @ The Center

"Queer Ballroom Party" Lessons in Salsa and Sexy Swing given with no partner or experience needed! 7pm Hot Salsa for beginners. 8pm Sexy West Coast Swing for beginners. 9pm to Midnight Musical Variety! Free under 21; \$10 over 21 (half off if taking Monday or Wednesday classes). 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 415-305-8242; www.queerballroom.com

Writers With Drinks @ Make Out Room

Writers With Drinks: A fundraiser for other (www.othermag.org) a magazine for people who don't feel represented by mainstream media categories. Featuring Jon Longhi, Tamim Ansary, Julie Gamberger, Kamau Bell, Jen Collins and Michaela Roessner. \$3-\$5 sliding. Doors 7pm; show 7:30-9:30pm. The Make Out Room, 3225 22nd St. (btwn Mission/Valencia). Info: www.writerswithdrinks.com

Orpheus Descending @ Actors Theatre of SF

Actors Theatre of San Francisco presents *Orpheus Descending*, directed by Jean Shelton & Kenneth Vandenberg, one of Tennessee Williams' most complicated and richly symbolic plays. It's the story of Lady, a passionate woman trapped in a loveless marriage in the Deep South, whose spirit is reigned by Val, a wild drifter. \$40 Opening Night Gala Benefit; \$25 General; \$15 Students and Seniors; \$10-\$25 sliding. Thursdays. 8pm (7pm Sun). Thru August 28. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter (btwn Powell & Mason). Tix: 415-296-9179; www.ticketweb.com. Info: www.actorstheatre.org

SF Hiking Club @ Angel Island

Join other outdoors lovers for an Angel Island Hike. Catch the spray of cool salty air on a ferry to Angel Island where we'll hike around the island and then climb Mount Livermore for lunch and a 360-degree view. It's a moderate 7-mile hike with an 800-ft. elevation gain. Meet 10:30am at the snack bar on Angel Island. Info: 415-487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay, a group for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders over the age of 55, hold their monthly potluck at 12 noon. San Leandro community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info/rides from BART: 510-667-9655.

Female Trouble @ 'Midnight Mass'

Landmark's Bridge Theatre presents "Midnight Mass," the summer midnight-movie-in-drag series, hosted by Peaches Christ. Tonight: *Female Trouble* (1975). John Waters' sublimely sordid saga of Dawn Davenport (Divine), a teenager who goes from loving schoolgirl to mass murderer — all because her parents won't buy her "cha cha" — helps for Christmas. With Edith Massey and Mink Stole. Also: Find out who's willing to die for the sake of art! Tonight's entire audience stars in the newest underground film masterpiece, *Whatever Happened to Peaches Christ?* \$10. Midnight. Landmark's Bridge Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd. (at Blake St, 3 blks west of Masonic). Info: peacheschrist.com. Tix: 415-751-3213; moviephone.com

SFTU's Speakeasily @ The Werepad

The San Francisco Tenants Union presents *Speakeasily*, an evening of high vaudevilian and burlesque entertainment hosted by long-time activist Robert Hazland and featuring the DJ styles of Vince Esparaza of the Hella Tight Crew. Performances by Indra, The Flying Fox, Jack Salteen, Bombshell Betty, and Willy the Clown. Since 1971, the San Francisco Tenants Union has been fighting for the rights of tenants and for the preservation of affordable housing in SF. \$15. 9pm. The Werepad, 2430 3rd St. (btwn 20th/22nd sts). Info: www.werepad.com

BATS Improv Beginner's Series @ Gazebo Room, CPMC

BATS Improv with Laughing Stock's offers a free beginner's class series for those living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, hepatitis C, kidney disease or other chronic, life-threatening ill-



Jill Tracy observes Bastille Day at SFPALM. See Wednesday.

nesses. Get some good laughs starting today and continuing July 17, 24 & 31, from 2:30-4:30pm at The Gazebo Room of CPMC's SF Davies Campus (Castro St. btwn Duboce Ave. & 14th St). Info/registration: 415-474-6776; email BATS@improv.org

The Dragon Painter @ Castro Theatre

The San Francisco Silent Film Festival presents award-winning composer Mark Izu and Midori Sawato (special guest artist from Japan) in *The Dragon Painter* (1919; 58min). Presented in cooperation with The Japan Society of Northern California and NAATA. The film, starring Sessue Hayakawa (*The Bridge Over River Kwai*), was filmed partially in Yosemite Valley and tells the story of a mad genius living in the mountains who paints only dragons while searching for his lost lover. Izu's score for *The Dragon Painter* is inspired by the film's attempt to introduce Zen concepts to American cinema in the early 1900s. 3-4:55pm. 429 Castro St. Info: www.silentfilm.org. Tix: 415-777-8623; ticketweb.com

Mr. & Miss GAPA Pageant @ Herbst Theatre

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) holds its 16th annual "Runway: Mr. and Miss GAPA Pageant 2004," a showcase that plays on the glamour of traditional pageants while pushing the outer boundaries of self-expression within a framework of camp, comedy and fun. Mr. GAPA 2003 Boboliscus and Miss GAPA 2003 Pussy Catwalk will crown their successors in a night of fun and fantasy hosted by celebrante Tita Aida. Through fantasy and evening wear competitions, contestants are encouraged to celebrate their uniqueness and flaunt their innermost fantasies. Says producer Tommy Hui: "It's not just about generic bodybuilding or tired drag performances. We encourage our contestants to boldly expand their image of the gay Asian male." \$20 rear orchestra & dress circle; \$30 front orchestra; \$50 royal box. 7pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave. (Civic Center). Info: 415-392-4400; www.cityboxoffice.com

Sun 11

Will Franken @ The Marsh

Get a head rush as Will Franken debuts his new one-man show, *Things We Did Before Reality*, Volume 1 — implying that there are quite a few things that we as a people used to do before the onset of cosmic reality... such as believing in a president, adhering to antiquated notions of gender and identity, relying on political correctness as a measure of a person's ethics, and believing in the concept of reality, et alia... Free beer to those who come early. \$10. 11 pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St (near 22nd). Info: www.willfranken.com

Drunken Queens You Might Know @ Glama-Rama

Opening party: *Drunken Queens You Might Know* — Photographs by Eric Stein aka Shutterluts, a new photo exhibit by SF underground paparazzo Eric Stein. Shutterluts has been capturing candid and revealing photographs of club goers of all stripes and persuasions for the past 10 years. Despite the emergence of digital photography, Stein has held steadfastly to a 35mm camera and has managed to become an icon himself with his trademark orange suit ensembles and red beard. Enjoy drinks, snacks, and a DJ set from a very special secret guest. Free. 6-9pm. Show runs Tues-Sat. 10am-6pm, thru Aug. 21. Glama-Rama Hair Salon & Gallery, 417 South Van Ness Ave. Info: 415-861-4526; www.glamarama.com; shutterluts.com

Fishtank Cabaret Night @ The Fishtank, Oakland

Fishtank Cabaret Night, hosted by Duck-mandu (aka Aaron Seeman), an Open Mic (usually musical, but can be spoken word, circus acts, dancing, puppet shows, or whatever), with performers including Larry, Hall and Jack, who gave a kick-ass performance in *Faerie Freedom Village* at this year's SF Pride Celebration. No amplification. Movie shown after. Popcorn provided; drinks extra (special drink: Pond Scum). \$2-\$10 sliding donation. Doors 6:30 pm, show 7:30pm-midnight. The Fishtank, 3405 Piedmont

Ave in Oakland (near Broadway, behind the Saw Mill, near MacArthur BART and the Broadway/Auto Row off-ramp off of 580). Info: www.duckmandu.com

K'vetsch

@ Sadie's Flying Elephant

K'vetsh queer spoken word event. Featuring an Open Mic and a Book Party for Michelle Tea and Lauren McCubbin's new book *Rent Girl*, as well as a book party for Bucky Sinister's new book *Whiskey and Robots*. Hosted by Lynn Breedlove and Tara Jepsen. \$1-\$3 donation. Open mic sign-up at 7:30 (one piece of 5 minutes or less); show at 8pm. Sadie's Flying Elephant bar, 491 Potrero (corner of Mariposa).

Mon 12

The Water Bearers

@ Noh Space

Theatre of Yugen's monthly performance series, "Yugen Presents," unveils *The Water Bearers*, a Butoh-based dance by the Medicine Wheel Dance Project, spearheaded by choreographer John Michael Doyle, with music by Eric Chaffin. *The Water Bearers* celebrates and evokes our fluid nature and the anatomy of evolving spirals within us. The title takes its image from the constellation Aquarius, who dissolves material bonds within in any process and unites heaven and earth with the water poured out from a pitcher. Doyle's primary influences include Japanese Butoh dance, Native American spirituality, and the landscape of the American West. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Also on Tuesday, July 13, Theatre of Yugen at Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. (at Florida). Tix/info: 415-621-7978; www.theatreofyugen.org

Dana Cory @ QComedy

QComedy presents Monday Night Gay Comedy, hosted by Dana Cory. Plus Betsy Salkind, Marti MacGibbon, Maggie Dolan, Chantal, Amma, Curtis Dunn, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15 sliding. 7:30pm doors; 8pm show. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Info: www.qcomedy.com

Queer Salsa lessons

@ The Center

Queer Ballroom presents Queer Salsa lessons. No partner or experience needed. 7pm Caliente Salsa lessons for beginners progressing into intermediate moves. Free under 21; \$10 over 21; \$35 for 4 week series (includes Queer Dance Pass good for half off two monthly parties). SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. Tix/info: 415-305-8242; www.queerballroom.com

Tue 13

Andrea Marcovicci @ Empire Plush Room

Opening night: Andrea Does Astaire. One of the most venerated cabaret singers in the U.S., Andrea Marcovicci, returns to the Empire Plush Room with an all-new musical show, *Andrea Does Astaire*. Ms. Marcovicci is nationally renowned for her thematic cabaret shows and recordings, including *I'll Be Seeing You—Love Songs of WWII*; *Just Kern*; *December Songs*; *Always, Irving Berlin*; and *Some Other Time*, a tribute to Mabel Mercer. She's a legend at the Algonquin Hotel Oak Room and has performed at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall, as well as with symphonic orchestras across the country and stage productions on Broadway and locally at A.C.T. \$35 & \$40. Tue-Sat at 8pm; Sun. at 3pm. Thru Aug. 1. Tix: 415-885-2800. Info: www.yorkhotel.com/plush-room.htm

Donna Rafanella

@ Modern Times Bookstore

Child and family counselor and author Donna Rafanella reads from and discusses *Can't Touch My Soul: A Guide for Lesbian Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse* (Alyson Books). Through the stories of more than 60 women, Rafanella addresses endemic feelings of isolation and shame experienced by survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. (at 20th St). Info: 415-282-9246.

Pink Steam @ Harvey Milk Branch Library

Reception: "Pink Steam," an exhibition including portraits, representational and abstract work inspired by the themes and content of Kevin Killian's and Dodie Bellamy's writing. Artists include: Donal Mosher, Jo Jackson, Anne Collier, Scott Hewicker, Cliff Hengst, Meredith Talson, Colter Jacobsen, Caitlyn Dayton-Mitchel, Peter Mitchel, Amanda Eicher, Simon Evans, Amy Rathbone, Daniel Nicoletta and others. Free. 6:30pm. Exhibit runs thru Aug. 17. Eureka Valley/Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St. (near Market).

Juanita MORE!

@ Trannyshack

From the Last Tango in Paris to Jive Talking in Japan, it's "Jet Set," in which globe-trotting diva Juanita MORE! shows you all the right moves to Stayin' Alive while traveling the world. With DJ Derek on the decks and Miss Chocolate at the door. 7:30pm-3am (show at midnight). 9th & Harrison. Info: www.heklina.com



Shutterslut Eric Stein's *Drunken Queers You Might Know* takes over Glama-Rama. See Sunday.

LGBT Family Collaborative @ The Center

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Family Collaborative presents: "Talking to Children About Sexual Orientation" This training will provide parents with a framework for discussing sexuality and sexual orientation with their children. Participants will learn age appropriate language and tools based on their child's developmental and emotional needs. Facilitator Dr. Mary Jayne Sims has over 15 years of experience working with adults, children, adolescents, couples and families. 7-8:30pm. Registration: Our Family Coalition, 415-981-1960. Childcare provided in the Center's fabulous KidSpace (RSVP to 415-865-5553). Communication Access for deaf and hard of hearing provided upon request. Co-sponsored by: Our Family Coalition, LYRIC, CO-LAGE, SF LGBT Community Center and New Leaf Services for Our Community. At SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St (at Octavia).

COLAGE Activity Night

@ The Center

Fun with other kids with LGBT Parents, for Youth ages 9-13. Join COLAGE for art, movies, games and more. 7-8:30pm. RSVP to Meredith Fenton at 415-861-5437 x102 or meredith@colage.org

To Hades and Back (Again)

@ Off-Market Studio

First Seen and C.A.F.E. present *To Hades and Back (Again)*, a play by SF playwright Katherine Murphy about the ramifications of war, the role of women in a patriarchy, and the endless cycles of violence it provokes, based on the women in Aeschylus' *Oresteia*. Directed by Michael Burg. Cast: Sylvia Kratins, Jennifer Dean, Regina Melzer, John Ingbreton, Ann Feehan and Johnathan Michaela Greeley. A comedic retelling of *The Oresteia* from the women's point of view that explores the hearts and tells the stories of Aeschylus' women. \$10. 8pm July 13 & 14. Off-Market Studio, 965 Mission (at 5th St). Tix/info: 415-821-2418; www.cafearts.com

Wed 14

Judy MacLean

@ Modern Times Bookstore

Modern Times Bookstore and the SF LGBT Community Center present Judy MacLean reading from *Rosemary and Juliet* (Harrington Park Press). MacLean's contemporary take on Shakespeare's classic. The novel explores the turbulent intensity of first love and the conflict between the expectations of parents and the undeniable sexual realities lived by their children. Free. 7:30pm.

Bastille Day @ SFPALM

Lecture/performance — Bastille Day Events: "Breaking the Shackles: De Sade, Grand Guignol, and the French Body." An evening of unfettered live acts with explanations and refreshments to follow. In the tradition of their smash Grand Guignol event last Halloween the SF Performing Arts Library & Museum (SFPALM) and Thrillpeddlers again join forces for a special Bastille Day celebration. One of the Bastille's most infamous inmates, The Marquis de Sade, wrote *120 Days of Sodom* in the prison, and reportedly spurred on the angry mobs from the top of the tower using his chamber pot as a megaphone. In honor of this history, UC Berkeley professor Mel Gordon (author of *The Grand Guignol: Theatre of Fear and Terror*) will offer a multimedia show on renderings of the French body at the time of the Grand Guignol. Russell Blackwood and Thrillpeddlers perform blood-curdling scenes from such classics as *The Marquis de*

Sade and *The Torture Garden*. Featuring the theatrical debut of diabolical chanteuse Jill Tracy (who will be the leading lady of the Thrillpeddlers' 5th annual Shocktoberfest!! 2004 in October). \$15. 7pm. SFPALM, 4th Floor, Veterans Bldg., 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix/info: 415-25504800; www.sfpalm.org; www.GrandGuignol.com

Bootie @ Cherry Bar

DJs Adrian and the Mysterious D present "Bootie," the hit monthly Mash-up Bootleg party. \$5. 9pm-2am. Cherry Bar, 917 Folsom (at 5th). Info: www.bootiesf.com

The Last Drag @ The Center

Smoke less, play more: The Coalition of Lavender Americans on Smoking & Health presents "The Last Drag," a free quit-smoking program for LGBT & HIV+ smokers. Quit smoking in a confidential and supportive group setting. Free. 7-9pm. Info/registration: 415-339-STOP; www.lastdrag.org

Hansel and Gretel @ NCTC

New Conservatory Theatre Center's Teen Summer Stock presents *The Brothers Grimm's Hansel and Gretel*, adapted by Charlotte Chorpennning, about the adventures of a brother and sister who meet a wickedly funny witch and realize that their home is not such a bad place after all. Directed by Angela Jolly. For ages 4 & up. Approx. 1 hr. running time. \$7 children; \$10 adults; \$5 per youth for groups of 10 or more; Arts Card Patrons receive 2-for-1 admission. 11am. Wed.-Sat., July 14-17. NCTC, 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower Lobby (at Market St.). Tix/info: 415-861-4914; www.nctcsf.org

Thu 15

David Boyer

@ Modern Times Bookstore

David Boyer presents his groundbreaking visual and oral history, *Kings and Queens: Queers at the Prom* (Soft Skull Press). A lesbian prom queen, a transgender prom king, gay high school sweethearts who met in 1969; veterans of Stonewall and World War II — these and more share their memories and photos, revealing what it's been like to grow up gay, bi, transgendered or utterly confused, tracing the evolution of both queer and pop culture. Free. 7:30pm.

Lavender Seniors

Lunch Bunch

Lavender Seniors of the East Bay host a new event, the "Lavender Lunch Bunch," a catered lunch open to LGBT residents of the East Bay and Western Contra Costa County. Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue, Oakland. Info/rides from BART: 510-667-9655

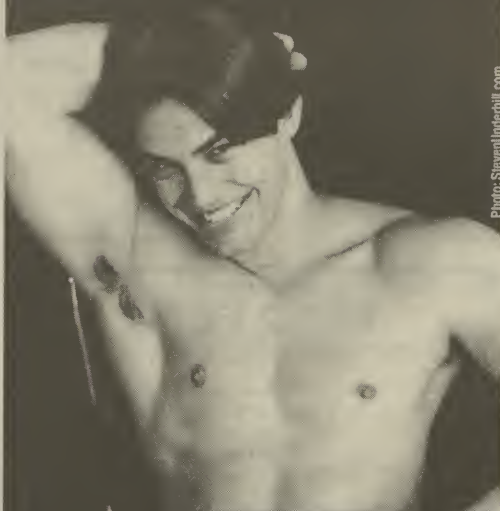
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Missing contenders

What if they gave a contest and...?

by Mister Marcus

An unsettling situation seems to be have evolved in leather communities from coast to coast. The situation is that men, women and boys are just not entering leather contests. This past weekend, the Mr. San Francisco Leather Sir/boy competition staged on Saturday, July 3, managed to recruit only one leather boy. The Leather sir contestant didn't bother to show up at the meet & greet on Friday, nor the pre-judging session on Saturday morning. It was quite rude that he didn't bother to contact the producer to let him know he would not be competing after all.

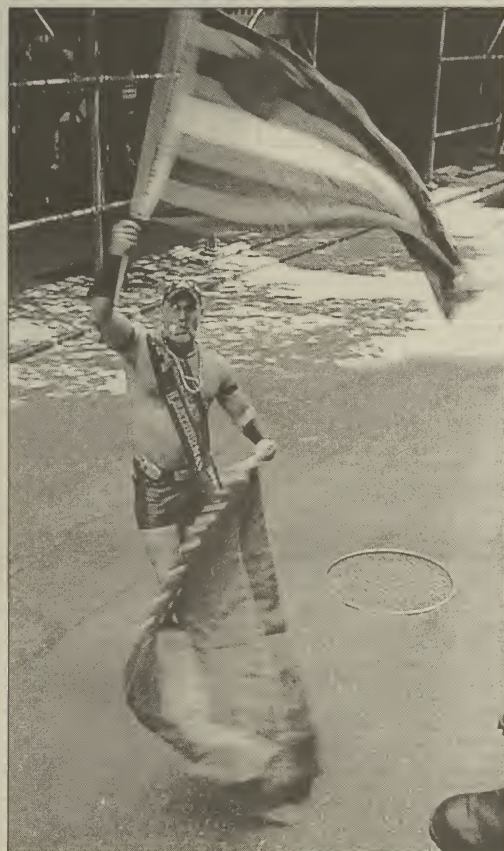
A similar scenario unfolded in the North East Region in New York last month, and it's not only Leather Sir/boy contests, but others as well. I can remember when there were 27 contestants for the SF Leather Daddy's Boy competition — and now it's a miracle to get three or four!

A win changes everything

Sacramento, a town with a much smaller leather population, managed to recruit four men for the Leather Sir title and three boys for the leather boy title recently. But that was an exception. The San Jose Leather Sir/boy contest scheduled for this coming weekend was cancelled due to a lack of interest. What has caused this situation?

Many factors contribute to non-participation. First of all, consider this: You are either a single carefree man (woman or boy or girl) or married to a devoted spouse. You do your job, pay your bills, spend your money where you see fit. You volunteer when so inclined, support fundraisers, buy admission and/or raffle tickets at exorbitant prices for charitable events, go and come as you please. You get laid frequently or you really pig out and behave like a total slut. Whatever you utter in public among your friends is just that. Your thoughts, your views, your opinions. Few people pay much attention to you unless they are on the make or want to sell you something.

Once you throw your hat into the ring to run for a title (leather or otherwise), ALL that changes. And if you enter and win, your life



American Leather Man 2004 Robert Napolitano carried the Gay Pride and Leather Pride flags the entire length of the Pride Parade in New York City. Wild applause greeted him on every block.

will NEVER be the same. You are expected to attend and support everything whether it's leather related or not. The public is after your body (or your lover's body). Everything you say and do is subjected to extreme criticism or praise (never both from the same person).

You (at least in San Francisco) are expected to work your ass off and raise money; attend every title holder's event in support (if you want THEIR support when you throw an event).

You get a little tipsy one evening and the next day the word is out that you were drunk on your ass. You decide to "tramp it up a little bit" and the next day

you are branded as a total tramp, slut or pig.

You are obliged to register with the Leather Title Holder's web site to ostensibly "learn" about and from your fellow title holders around the world and instead, if you misspell a word, voice your opinion or otherwise express you, yourself or your beliefs, you get subtly, (key word here is subtly) chastised. But no matter how subtle the chastisement, you are still branded as "boring, unclear on the concept etc., etc, ad nausea" or bring up a subject that has nothing to do with leather title-holding or even leather at that.

The above short list and many, many more could be deterrents to anyone contemplating running

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Week of July 8-12

The Canadian Leather Alliance inaugurates the Canadian Leather Man, Woman and Boy contests at the Sheraton Ottawa Hotel in Ottawa this weekend. To reserve rooms: 1-800-489-8333. For more info, Email to: calmecam@netrover.com.

Thursday, July 8

Underwear Party at the Powerhouse. These events are fast becoming very popular. Yes, the word is out and it's all good. The Powerhouse is the ONLY place to be on Thursday nights.

Friday, July 9

Leather Night at Renegade Bar in San Jose. The San Jose Leather Sir/boy contest has been cancelled due to lack of interest, but the leather theme goes on anyway.

Saturday, July 10

American Leatherman 2001, Jeffrey Cooper trav-

els to San Diego for the Orange Coast Leather Assembly to cover the basics of the body-punching scene in an S/M or D/S activity for the playroom. Everything you ever needed or wanted to know, 1300 to 1500. RSVP to papatony@mac.com for the location and details.

Sunday, July 11

Castro Lions host the annual Leather Auction at the Eagle today from 1500-1800 with an \$8 beer/sodas bust, foods. Clothing from the estates of the late Alan Selby and Thom Gunn.

Weekend, July 14-19

Busy everywhere! Lazy Bear Weekend at the Russian River, Folsom Street North in Toronto (john@folsomfairnorth.com), Canada; International Ms. Leather in Omaha, Nebraska; (www.imsl.org.) Water Boys Wen 'n Hot Weekend in Palm Springs (www.waterboys.com).

Wood eye!

by John F. Karr

Old Wood Eye is at it again. Allow me to introduce three impressive new peni, which arrive in a trio of movies from All Worlds Video: good, better, and mixed bag.

Catch Me depicts the crew of a film shoot making out behind the scenes. In it, you'll take note of newcomer Jasper Collins, with a cock so fat that fingers can barely wrap around it. It's steely hard, has a moonlit color, a red bush, and shoots geysers of cum. Still, he seems personally bland. The movie's main event is Andrew Rubio, a crop-haired, Hispanic-looking and sleek-bodied young man. His is a memorable cock: rather short, but striding upward from the firm pedestal of a tight nutsack, its impressively broad shaft broadens more in ascent, and attains a double-wide corona that's crowned with a bulging, mushroom-cap head. Man, you just wanna wrap your lips around that. Rubio and Deacon Frost get lots of time for adulation of each other's equipment, before Rubio throws Frost a fuck that's deep grind/sharp poke. When he screws himself down on Frost's tool for a solid ride, his cock's an upright missile that seems to be blasting off.

The movie's surrounding scenes are nicely cast, somewhat clumsily filmed and formulaic in content. The movie has a likeably cavalier attitude that's a little too freely indulged, however — things can look slapdash.

Eager cheeks

In a world full of Ethan and Dylan and Josh and Troy, it's refreshing to meet an Abram. This one, Abram Rodriguez, is a fresh 'n' eager, slight-



Bikeboy Abram Rodriguez and cop Jack Sanders in *Daddy Does It Best*.

ly ethnic-looking young pup. First spotted in the ensemble of two of Titan's *Manplay* orgy series, Abram makes his full-scene debut in *Daddy Does It Best*. Its four scenes each pair a younger man with an older one, who is called "Daddy" at least once in each scene.

Although Abram is being arraigned, the arresting officer intercedes on his behalf, telling the

magistrate, "From the moment he opened his mouth, he was an absolute joy." Watching their encounter in flashback, we can only agree. The cop's tongue is down Abram's mouth in a flash. "Who's your daddy?" he asks. "You are," Abram coos. You'd think they'd have to read him his rights before asking this kind of question. At any rate, Abram's cock is a tanned, meaty morsel, appreciatively sucked by the cop. And does Abram writhe when a finger, or a tongue, snakes into his boyish little butt? You bet. Soon enough, he

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Karnal Knowledge

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

for a title. Some elements of the so-called "old guard" and even some of the "new guard" people reject leather titles and the whole scene in its entirety. Sure, they attend IML or ImsL or Leather Sir/boy, ABW and Ms. World but they are there for sex and could care less about who wins what. Let's face it. We all know people who do just that. And there's nothing wrong with that.

So there it is. I know of no one who has a solution for the lack of people entering contests. It's a big step for anyone, be it a bar title, a neighborhood title, a city title, a state title, a regional title or a national and/or international title. Why some people who failed the first time around enter again is a whole other story. But because of all the above listed factors, the field looks barren indeed. And some of the contest producers are themselves deterrents to quality people. The lack of support, making the contestants wait forever to be reimbursed for travel they did in the line of duty, making unfair demands and other disheartening acts. We can only hope that those with the personality, the stamina and the true grit to get out there and compete, win and weather the treacheries of titledom will surface and do a good job. After all, doing your best is what it's all about.



"J.R." Cintron is the San Francisco Leather Boy 2004, chosen Saturday night, July 3 at the Powerhouse Bar. There was no Leather Sir candidate.

And most of you do, have done, and will in the future.

SF Leather Boy

The one leather sir who expressed an interest in running for SF Leather Sir was a no-show at the meet-&-greet on Friday at Daddy's, and a no-show at the pre-judging session on Saturday.

There was, however, a SF Leather boy contest at the Power-

house on Saturday night. A big crowd of the "usual suspects" was on hand for the sole contestant, "J.R." Cintron, who weathered all the regular categories for the judges. Emcee Darryl Flick was obliged to stretch, ad lib, adlib, stretch with humor and a little sarcasm to keep the show going.

"J.R.'s" fantasy was quite authentic and humorous, and it still managed to convey the theme for the Northern California Region. It was short and sweet and satisfying, and the faithful were there to welcome yet a new titleholder.

"J.R." advances to compete for the Northern California Regional leather boy title, and there might even be a Leather Sir appointed by the producers. In order to satisfy the rule that a leather boy MUST have a Leather Sir to advance, the rule provides the boy being able to demonstrate "servitude," which is what the title is all about. The Northern California Regional Leather Sir/boy competition takes place up at the Russian River the weekend of August 13-15th. Have you made your plans yet?

Leather pride on view

Across the nation, gay pride parades were not without a healthy percentage of leather folk. From New York to Los Angeles and San Francisco, large leather contingents were in parades and most report they were well received. More pride parades on the way. ▼

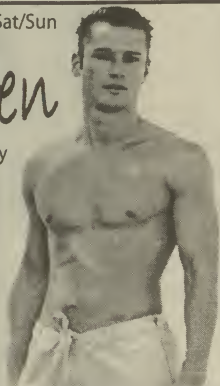
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Indication

LEXIVA is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection in adults.

- The PI-experienced patient study was not large enough to reach a definitive conclusion that LEXIVA/ritonavir and lopinavir/r are clinically equivalent.
- Once-daily administration of LEXIVA/r is not recommended for PI-experienced patients.

Important Safety Information

- You should not take LEXIVA if you have had an allergic reaction to LEXIVA or AGENERASE® (amprenavir).
- High blood sugar, diabetes or worsening of diabetes, and bleeding in hemophiliacs have occurred in some patients taking protease inhibitors.
- Changes in body fat may occur in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. The cause and long

term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

- Skin rashes can occur in patients taking LEXIVA. Rarely, rashes were severe or life-threatening.
- Opportunistic infections can develop when the immune system is weak. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while you are taking LEXIVA to discuss any side effects or concerns.
- Missing doses of your HIV medication may give the virus a chance to mutate and multiply—your medicines may not work as well and your virus may become cross-resistant to other HIV medicines.
- Most common side effects in clinical studies were diarrhea, headache, nausea, rash, and vomiting. In most cases, these side effects did not cause people to stop taking their medicine.

Drug Interactions

- LEXIVA should not be taken with: AGENERASE (amprenavir), Halcion® (triazolam), ergot medications (Cafergot®, Migranal® and others), Propulsid®

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(cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Orap® (pimozide), Zocor® (simvastatin), Mevacor® (lovastatin), Rifadin® (rifampin), Rescriptor® (delavirdine), or St. John's wort. If you are taking Norvir® (ritonavir), you should not take Tambocor® (flecainide) or Rythmol® (propafenone).

- Serious and/or life-threatening events could occur between LEXIVA and other medications, including Cordarone® (amiodarone), lidocaine (intravenous only), Elavil® and Tofranil® (tricyclic antidepressants), Quinaglute® (quinidine).
- Women who use birth control pills should choose a different kind of contraception. LEXIVA can affect the safety and effectiveness of birth control pills.
- Patients taking Viagra® or LEVITRA™ with LEXIVA may be at an increased risk of side effects.
- This list of drug interactions is not complete. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or plan to take, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbals.

Please see important information on adjacent page.



A PI fit for our time.

Ask your healthcare provider whether LEXIVA is right for you.

Call 1-866-4-LEXIVA or visit www.LEXIVA.com for more information.



Patient Information about LEXIVA Tablets (lex-EE-vah) (fosamprenavir calcium) Tablets

Read the Patient Information that comes with LEXIVA before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. It is important to remain under a healthcare provider's care while taking LEXIVA. Do not change or stop treatment without first talking with your healthcare provider. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you have any questions about LEXIVA.

What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?

LEXIVA can cause dangerous and life-threatening interactions if taken with certain other medicines. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

- Some medicines cannot be taken at all with LEXIVA.
- Some medicines will require dose changes if taken with LEXIVA.
- Some medicines will require close monitoring if you take them with LEXIVA.

Know all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements. Keep a list of the medicines you take. Show this list to all your healthcare providers and pharmacists anytime you get a new medicine or refill. Your healthcare providers and pharmacists must know all the medicines you take. They will tell you if you can take other medicines with LEXIVA. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking LEXIVA without talking with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that can interact with LEXIVA.

What is LEXIVA?

LEXIVA is a medicine you take by mouth to treat HIV infection. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). LEXIVA belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called protease inhibitors. LEXIVA is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. When used in combination therapy, LEXIVA may help lower the amount of HIV found in your blood, raise CD4+ (T) cell counts, and keep your immune system as healthy as possible, so it can help fight infection. However, LEXIVA does not work in all patients with HIV.

LEXIVA does not:

- cure HIV infection or AIDS. We do not know if LEXIVA will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems (opportunistic infections) that people get with HIV or AIDS. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while you are taking LEXIVA. The long-term effects of LEXIVA are not known.
- lower the risk of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

LEXIVA has not been fully studied in children under the age of 18 or in adults over the age of 65.

Who should not take LEXIVA?

Do not take LEXIVA Tablets if you:

- are taking certain other medicines. Read the section "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?" Do not take the following medicines with LEXIVA. You could develop serious or life-threatening problems:
 - HALCION® (triazolam; used for insomnia)
 - Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches)
 - PROLUSID® (cisapride); used for certain stomach problems
 - VERSED® (midazolam); used for sedation
 - ORAP® (pimozide); used for Tourette's disorder

Do not take the following medicines if you are taking LEXIVA and NORVIR® (ritonavir) together. You could develop serious or life-threatening problems.

- TAMBOCOR® (flecainide); used for certain abnormal heart rhythms
- RHYTHMOL® (propafenone); used for certain abnormal heart rhythms
- are allergic to LEXIVA or any of its ingredients. The active ingredient is fosamprenavir calcium. See the end of this leaflet for a list of all the ingredients in LEXIVA.
- are allergic to AGENERASE® (amprenavir).

You should not take AGENERASE (amprenavir) and LEXIVA at the same time.

Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions including if you:

- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if LEXIVA can harm your unborn baby. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if LEXIVA is right for you. If you use LEXIVA while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about how you can be on the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- are breastfeeding. You should not breastfeed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing the HIV virus to your baby through your milk. Also, it is not known if LEXIVA can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- have liver problems. You may be given a lower dose of LEXIVA or LEXIVA may not be right for you.
- have kidney problems
- have diabetes. You may need dose changes in your insulin or other diabetes medicines.
- have hemophilia
- are allergic to sulfa medicines

Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. LEXIVA can cause dangerous and life-threatening interactions if taken with certain other medicines. You may need dose changes in some of your medicines or closer monitoring with some medicines if you also take LEXIVA (see "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?"). Know all the medicines that you take and keep a list of them with you to show healthcare providers and pharmacists.

Women who use birth control pills should choose a different kind of contraception. LEXIVA can affect the safety and effectiveness of birth control pills. Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective contraceptive.

How should I take LEXIVA?

- Take LEXIVA Tablets exactly as your healthcare provider prescribed.
- Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of LEXIVA Tablets at any one time. Do not change your dose or stop taking LEXIVA without talking with your healthcare provider.
- You can take LEXIVA Tablets with or without food.
- When your supply of LEXIVA or other anti-HIV medicine starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. The amount of HIV virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the medicines are stopped, even for a short time.
- Stay under the care of a healthcare provider while using LEXIVA.
- It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of LEXIVA by more than 4 hours, wait and take the next dose at the regular time. However, if you miss a dose by fewer than 4 hours, take your missed dose right away. Then take your next dose at the regular time.
- If you take too much LEXIVA, call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

What should I avoid while taking LEXIVA?

- Do not use certain medicines while you are taking LEXIVA. See "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?" and "Who should not take LEXIVA?"
- Do not breastfeed. See "Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider." Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection since LEXIVA doesn't stop you from passing the HIV infection to others.
- Do not share needles or other injection equipment.
- Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes or razor blades.
- Do not have any kind of sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom, to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What are the possible side effects of LEXIVA?

LEXIVA may cause the following side effects:

- skin rash. Skin rashes, some with itching have happened in patients taking LEXIVA. Tell your healthcare provider if you get a rash after starting LEXIVA.
- diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia). Some patients had diabetes before taking LEXIVA while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others may need a new diabetes medicine.
- increased bleeding problems in some patients with hemophilia.
- worse liver disease. Patients with liver problems, including hepatitis B or C, are more likely to get worse liver disease when they take anti-HIV medicines like LEXIVA.
- changes in blood tests. Some people have changes in blood tests while taking LEXIVA. These include increases seen in liver function tests and blood fat levels, and decreases in white blood cells. Your healthcare provider may do regular blood tests to see if LEXIVA is affecting your body.
- changes in body fat. These changes have happened in patients taking antiretroviral medicines like LEXIVA. The changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Common side effects of LEXIVA are nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider about any side effects that bother you or that won't go away.

This list of side effects of LEXIVA is not complete. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

How should I store LEXIVA Tablets?

- Store LEXIVA Tablets at room temperature between 59° and 86°F (15° to 30°C). Keep the container tightly closed.
- Keep LEXIVA and all medicines out of the reach of children.
- Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General information about LEXIVA

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use LEXIVA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give LEXIVA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about LEXIVA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about LEXIVA that is written for health professionals. For more information you can call toll-free 888-825-5249 or visit www.LEXIVA.com.

What are the ingredients in LEXIVA?

Active Ingredient: fosamprenavir calcium.

Inactive Ingredients: colloidal silicon dioxide, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, and povidone K30. The tablet film-coating contains the inactive ingredients hypromellose, iron oxide red, titanium dioxide, and triacetin.

LEXIVA Tablets, 700 mg, are pink in color and are capsule-shaped, with the letters "GX LL7" printed on one side of the tablet.

RX only

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FILM

Poet for the ages is celebrated

'Pablo Neruda! Presente!' at Theater Artaud for his centenary

by David Lambie

Like George Orwell, Pablo Neruda was a writer who named himself, a writer from humble origins who earned a worldwide readership, who came of age during the terrible Spanish Civil War, and who depicted the darkest and richest parts of the soul of his country. Raised in Southern Chile, a region he would once jokingly refer to as his country's "Wild West," Neruda was a prodigy at 14, a published poet at 19, a diplomat in his 20s, and a fugitive from the injustice of Chile's pre-war reactionary government who was able to hide in plain sight among the common people of Patagonia, later fleeing to Argentina, Mexico and France.

His poetry would earn him a 1971 Nobel Prize, and his poems are frequently available in this country in bilingual editions, indicative of just how definitive his contributions have been to the literature of the Spanish language.

It's not easy to craft a film about a man whose legend overwhelms the actual details of his life. In *Pablo Neruda! Presente!*, filmmaker Mark Eisner has assembled a great collection of persons who knew Neruda, including a 92-year-old cowboy, Juvenal Flores, who led the poet through a hidden route to Argentina. Eisner's team (including Chilean cinematographer Roddy Belloch) gives an international audience a glimpse at some heart-stopping views of the rivers, rainforests and rugged timber country of South-

ern Chile, images that visually frame the words of a poet many consider the greatest of the 20th century.

The film tracks the political heat of this passionate poet: his friendship with Lorca, his term as a Communist Party senator, his rescue of Spanish Civil War refugees, and the terrible irony that his death came a dozen days after the death of his friend President Allende in the 1973 Chilean coup, an event that friends of Neruda felt broke his heart.

Pablo Neruda! Presente! will be the centerpiece of *Festival Neruda*, a week-long celebration of Neruda's birthday centennial, July 12-18 at Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St. in San Francisco. Information: (866) 413-0868 or www.redpoppy.net.



Poet Pablo Neruda gets a big wet one from artist Pablo Picasso.

Spider-Man 2

Arts cover

painful pratfalls onto Midtown streets.

Our Mr. Parker is the superhero with a conscience, the ordinary guy so guilt-ridden about exposing Mary Jane to danger that he loses her to a pseudo-hero, like a contestant on some tacky reality show. He prizes moral courage over physical derringdo, as in the sensational moment when Peter confesses to Aunt May (Rosemary Harris) the guilt he's harbored over the death of his uncle.

Most filmmakers out to beat their own record-smashing box office would have made the sequel wall-to-wall stunts and thrills, with limbs flying everywhere (witness the self-cannibalizing *Terminator* 3). Instead, director Sam Raimi has the special effects take a back-seat to a morality play in which Parker pays almost too much heed to his uncle's last words. "For those to whom great power is given, great responsibility is demanded."

Male frontier

For fans of Maguire who figured that the call to the *Spider-Man* franchise meant the crucifixion of our St. Tobey, fear not. The soulful young actor who has given us a gallery of lost boys morphing pluck and an almost feminine grace has, with Peter Parker, crafted an even more beautiful version of the character. Someday critics may mark Maguire's Parker as a fork in the acting road that, like Brando, created a new frontier in male sensitivity—in which a man

can accept a gender-equal world as something other than an assault on his masculinity.

Spider-Man 2 stands the genre on its ear. Now it's the kids who must sit quietly as Peter attempts to woo Mary Jane with Yeats, or during the electric moment when Parker's stare from the audience during *The Importance of Being Earnest* prompts Mary Jane to forget her lines in Wilde's delicious comedy of manners and thwarted desire.

A terrific film villain, British actor Molina moves us as the good scientist Dr. Otto Octavius turned, through his own hubris, into the malevolent Doc Ock. *Spider-Man 2* is a smart movie that comments wittily on technology run amok while warming the souls of children of all ages. Now playing. ▼

All Worlds Video

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hauls out the officer's dick. Wow! It's a whopper, well-defined and firm. You just know the kid's gonna get reamed silly. So surprise, when after some swell 69ing, Abram screws the cop, whose flesh baton swells even more and bangs heavily about as he bounces upon Abram. Further surprise: a nifty flip-flop, with the cop's biggie bonking the boyjuice outa breathless Abram.

Brett Wolfe and Sam Dixon show a lot of zeal in their scene together, as do Bobby Benson and the sad-eyed, heavy-donged Steven Richards. Both pairs are surpassed, not unexpectedly, by hotshot Brad Benton with Dillon Press. Between Brad's big dick, Press' ripped body, and their mutually ravenous attack, this is swell stuff. Also including a flip-flop: I love the way Press holds his dick steady in Brad's ass as the boy is wracked with orgasm.

The whole movie's pretty sexy, but wrapped up in the standardized mode of overedited 20-minute scenes that have little organic continuity. Still, the formula is freshened by the performer's playful banter and a generally breezy air instilled by writer/director Paul Barresi, making this one of those little movies that could. Shows what can be done on a limited budget and in a short time.

Sex offenders

Raw has a stylish new look to its credits, but the content is the same old formulaic porn-making.

Director Doug Jeffries manages his scenes clumsily, constantly mistakes hectic for intense, and writes a garbled script with particularly muddled ideas about sexuality. A man-hating female scientist, whose appearance wrenches the mood between each scene, is studying the deviant minds of sex offenders, all of whom are actually rather healthy gay men. Their supposedly offensive sex ranges from standard (Jack Ryan in another of those terminally fake public rest rooms, with a glory-hole the size of Alabama) to heated (a groom's threeway with his best men) to unlikely (Tag Adams being "punished" by a pair of uncult Hispanics, who treat him with aggressive rudeness and piss all over him, is actually Mr. Adams' idea of a holiday) to eyebrow-raising and unfortunately circumscribed (a kind of ultimate *Fallen Angel* leatherman, Ruben D'Angelo, and the Vin Diesel-ish Vin Nolan roughing up Drew Peters before applying a huge dildo and fists to his ass).

I'm surprised, though certainly not regretful, to find WS and fisting in an *All Worlds* movie. I hope that as pretty boy Peters ages, his face doesn't become as elastic as his asshole is now. And I'm positive that "Suck your fiancée's little brother's cock" is too much of a mouthful to deliver to someone with a mouthful — although I'm thrilled to see Kent Larson being thus instructed. Larson is stunning, a tall and muscular man who is suddenly working for far too many companies at once. His beauty and passion fried my brain when he made out with

Josh Weston in Falcon's *Kept*, but checklist activities, over-editing and lack of chemistry undercut his valiant efforts here.

Perhaps *All Worlds* is a little too prolific for its own good. What if more time, a bigger budget, and character-sensitive direction were lavished on the Messieurs Rodriguez, Rubio, and Larson? You'd have Titan Studio's forthcoming *Men's Room: Bakersfield Station*, which stars all three, and which I'll tell you more about soon. ▼

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Trialogue with critics

Craig Seligman on Sontag and Kael

by Tim Pfaff

Craig Seligman's genre-busting *Sontag & Kael: Opposites Attract Me* (Counterpoint, \$23) sizzles with the energy of a book that had to be written. This reflection on the influence Susan Sontag (the work) and Pauline Kael (the woman and the work) have had on Seligman has produced an unprecedented triologue. He cannily juxtaposes the critical judgments of the two women (who never went *mano-a-mano* in real life), creating an illuminating debate, and then jumps into the intellectual *ménage à trois* with his own distinctive, often bratty voice.

It's a bravura performance you can't take your eyes off, however much you want to at times. It's dizzying if never confusing; Seligman leaves no doubt where he stands. Critics of a more standard cast of mind are probably opening their veins in some of the better artists' colonies this summer. Seligman's whole career has gone into this book, which raises the critical bar.

Few other writers could have written something this personal and passionate, and gotten it published. Seligman has the chops for the first part and the connections for the second, and has seized his moment in a way that will make most people who aren't Susan Sontag (in a pale imitation of his style: "just about everyone") cheer. It's a book for readers — people who love words, argument and, occasionally, the savory, metallic aftertaste of blood in the mouth.

When I knew Seligman, we were stringers for the *Examiner*. Like me, he mostly got the leavings in what was virtually a Kaelite closed shop. Even then, his pithy reviews showed the signs of the true critic he describes so passionately in his book: the knack for delivering penetrating insights in a consistent voice whatever the subject.

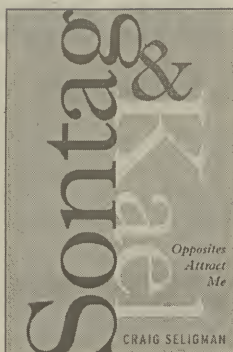
As a treacly recent paean to Kael by a *New Yorker* critic made clear, as writers, few of her other acolytes have gotten out from under her skirts. Seligman, among the gayest of them, demonstrably has. While his writing shares

Kael's feisty, profane directness, his finely tuned voice has overtones rather than echoes of his mentor. Instead of settling for ventriloquism, he uses the energy he finds in her voice to power his own hard-won one. He alone has shown me how "that voice became instrumental in reshaping the American critical language." If I can't go the distance with him, to regarding what she left as a body of literature, I know the feeling. I, too, have lurked at newsstands for the first available copy of a new *New Yorker*, and thought the review more important than the thing reviewed.

Case dismissed

Gay readers will appreciate Seligman's masterful dismissal of the charges that both women were homophobic. (On the page facing the one where he declares his gayness, he proclaims Sontag's.) Readers who get that far will welcome the respite of some even-handed praise.

Pretty much everywhere else, Seligman thrashes Sontag (whose physical beauty he hymns mysteriously) with the plainer, spindlier, sharper-edged Kael. He says he



"reverses" Sontag but "loves" Kael. To the extent that's true, it's proof of the high price of idolatry, a favorite theme of Cynthia Ozick, who gets a cameo here but whom I would love to read Seligman on.

From the start, he insists that he doesn't mean to bash Sontag, and he's forever trying to restore balance. But like someone with Tourette's, he can't stop the invective. "Sontag's self-righteousness is grating. I take it personally." Gotcha.

"If, after revisions, it still sounds like I hate Sontag, then my revisions haven't done their job," he says in a moment of sweet talk. Nine lines later: "Her tone isn't congenial and she exasperates me. You have to be a bit of an asshole

to say, 'I don't write because there's an audience. I write because there is literature.'"

Before claiming that Kael is really "the inhuman one," he first applauds her "unfailing wisdom and... clarity of vision." Never having developed a taste for female mud-wrestling, I sometimes looked away.

Despite saying some uncommonly wise things about the craft of writing, Seligman mounts some pulpits. "A critic's duty, first and foremost, is to get it right," he preaches. Yet, on the first page, after softening up Sontag with a few preemptory blows, he blurts out, "I'm getting off on the wrong foot."

He might, then, have rewritten, as both his models compulsively did. But it may have been more important for him to prevail over an editor — if he had one — as Kael always did, with self-defining grit.

Grief takes many forms. The book ends with almost unbearably tender reflections on Seligman's last days with Kael. Against all odds, he has written a book in which they fit. I wouldn't change a word of it, either. ▼

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Out for business

Banis cites the gay activist movement's early stirrings in California such as the 1962 formation of the Tavern Guild in San Francisco, the nation's first gay business organization, and the establishment the following year of S.I.R., The Society for Individual Rights, as giving him the "idea to go ahead with my books." He notes that at the time the first of his *Man from C.A.M.P.* novels appeared, "it was still clear that the courts regarded books espousing homosexuality as obscene *per se*." In fact, Banis credits his extensive writing career as having been brought about when an obscenity charge was leveled against his first book. He stood trial for four months in Sioux City. *The Affairs of Gloria* was "more a lark than anything else, and I probably never would have continued with pulps, but I was pissed at what I thought was an attempted railroad, and as a gay activist in the bud, I really did want to write gay books."

Banis' subversive sensibility is most clearly evident in his main character, Jackie Holmes. A blond wisp of a limp-wristed, tight-pants-wearing, white-poodle-



Author Victor J. Banis with his white poodle in 1966: model for Jackie.

owning homosexual — who Banis says was very much modeled on his own look at the time, including the poodle — makes an unlikely superagent. But the reader quickly learns that it is all an artfully constructed facade for the deadly efficient man from C.A.M.P., who always gets his man, in more ways than one. Jackie is a refreshing fictional confectionery from a time where such characters never stood up for themselves, much less outsmarted and defeated their attackers, and forget about international supervillains.

With some 50,000-100,000 copies of each *Man from C.A.M.P.* novel published at the time, it's clear that Jackie found an eager readership in a period when Jack Smith's *Flaming Creatures* would soon set Susan Sontag to scribble some *Notes on Camp*. "Though the books started out as fun, I did quickly see the opportunity to espouse the gay cause, and seized it." Working for an organization whose acronym remains mysterious, the man from C.A.M.P. notes without a pause to all inquirers that the C might stand for sucker, and that the covert group's mission, whose all-powerful executive office is known as High C.A.M.P.,

is "dedicated to the protection and advancement of homosexuals."

"I don't want to make myself a hero," says Banis of his creation. "The real hero was Earl Kemp, the editor who had the courage to do the books in a very dangerous climate." On Jackie always bedding the straight agent assigned to work with him on a case, Banis offers, "Well, isn't that every queen's fantasy? It was a sort of one-upmanship in an era when many straight men thought themselves superior to gay men."

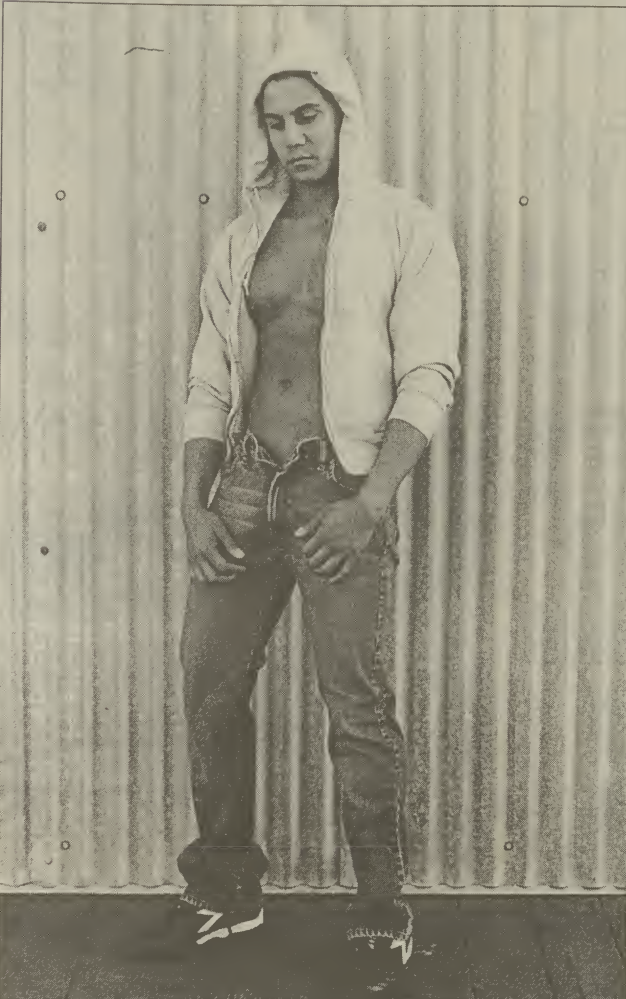
Currently at work on his memoir, *Spine Intact, Some Creases*, that will publish in September, Banis is the first to admit that when he was approached by editor Fabio Cleto about republishing some of the books from the *Man from C.A.M.P.* series, "I thought, no chance. Somerset Maugham often said that a writer doesn't outlive his own generation. I think it's amazing and flattering that people still read and enjoy those books." Yea, Jackie! ▼

Victor Banis will read from *That Man from C.A.M.P.* on July 15, 6 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore.



Banis seized upon the gay cause.

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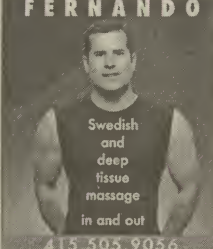


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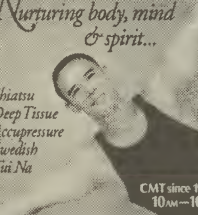
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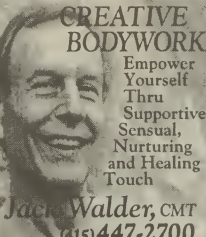
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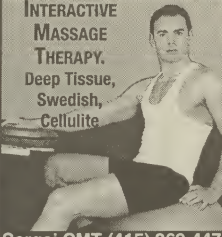


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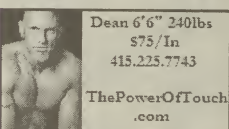
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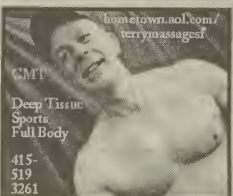
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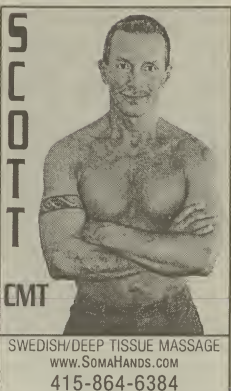
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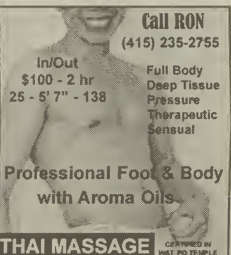
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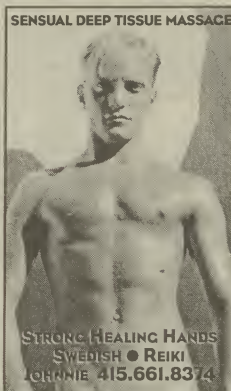
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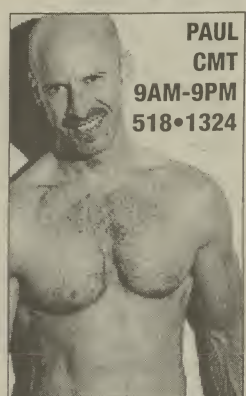


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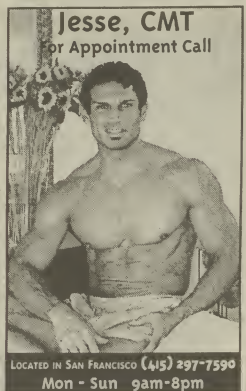
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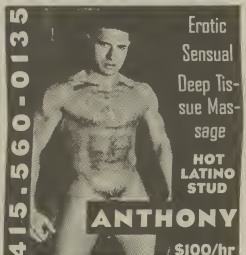


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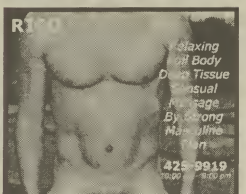
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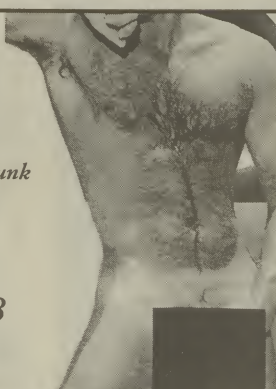
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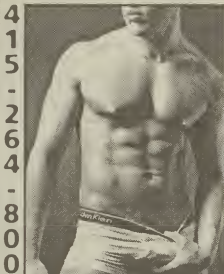
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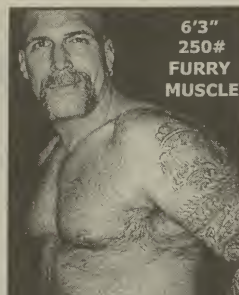
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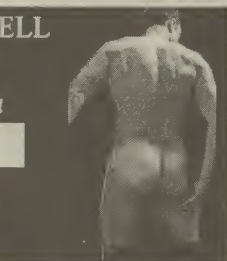


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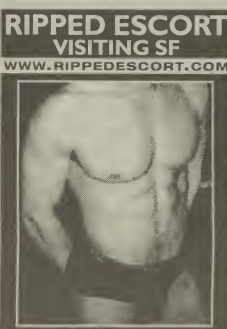
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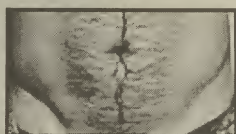
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